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ARAB TIMES

SATURDAY, MAY 19, 1990/SHAWWAL 24, 1410 AH

25 killed in Manila plane crash

Twin-engine Beechcraft slams into a Japanese home

MANILA, May 18. (AP) A twin-engine commuter plane with 21 people aboard crashed after takeoff this morning and exploded after hitting a house south of Manila's airport. Witnesses said there was no sign of survivors.

The witnesses said a Japanese man, his Filipino wife and two children were in the house, which burst into flames. Employees of the home in suburban Paranaque said the four residents were asleep in their bedroom and were feared dead.

The crash occurred one week after a

Philippine Airlines Boeing 737 with 119 people aboard exploded and caught fire while waiting to take off from the domestic airport on a flight to the central Philippine city of Iloilo.

Eight people were killed but the cause of the incident has not been determined.

The Beechcraft propeller-driven aircraft, owned by the Aeroflit Corp., took off about 6:25 am today (2225 GMT Thursday) for the Mindanao island town of Surigao when air controllers saw it was not gaining altitude.

Controller Francisco Reyes said the

pilot radioed that he was returning to the domestic airport.

"When I noticed he could not gain altitude, I immediately advised the (local) fire station," Reyes said. "I said, 'get out there immediately because the plane is going to crash.'

Aeroflit spokesman Benjie Torres said the plane carried 19 passengers and two crew.

Witnesses said the plane nose-dived into the home in Paranaque, about one kilometre (a half mile) south of the airport, and exploded in flames.

Witnesses said debris and parts of charred bodies were scattered in the area.

A maid working at the house told radio station DZBB she heard a huge explosion upon impact.

"I was cleaning the house when suddenly I heard a blast," said the maid, who gave her name only as Marlin. "I ran out immediately" with two other maids.

Raymond Lebunao, 14, who worked in the house as an errand boy, said the plane slammed into the couple's bedroom, where they were sleeping with their children.

Witnesses said debris and parts of charred bodies were scattered in the area.

US threatens pullout

Talks on bases fail

MANILA, May 18. (Reuters) The United States bluntly warned today it could pull out of its military facilities in the Philippines unless Manila based its alliance with Washington on more than money.

In tough negotiations, the two sides failed to settle the future of American military bases in the Philippines. However, they solved a conflict over compensation and agreed to hold further talks on the future of their entire political and security relationship.

But after five days of discussions, chief US negotiator Richard Armitage said he was uncertain if the base would stay. "I cannot predict the shape or even the likelihood of a future bases agreement between our two countries," he told reporters.

In a joint statement, the two sides agreed to make up for an apparent \$222.5 million shortfall in US compensation to the Philippines with surplus military equipment, food and medical aid.

Armitage told a news conference he felt frustrated and disappointed by the emphasis placed by the Philippines on the compensation issue.

He said the Philippines, a former US colony that gets a billion dollars a year in aid and indirect spending from the bases, must decide whether it wanted the military facilities to stay and what value it placed on them.

Armitage stressed that, though monetary terms, the American military presence cannot be sustained, he declared.

"And it will be gone," he said, "not because of a shortfall in US support for democracy and economic development for the Philippines. Rather, it will be gone because in a strategic sense, money alone cannot

(Continued on Page 2)

Campaign

Candidates feast voters

KUWAIT, May 18. (Agencies) Huge tents decked out with coloured lights and sprouting up around Kuwait as candidates for a new interim assembly seek votes with traditional Arab hospitality.

Sheep are kept in cages nearby, ready for slaughter for the evening meals the candidates serve to supporters among the 65,000 voters.

Although the hospitality is in line with custom, the cost has raised some eyebrows. The daily Al Seyassat pointed out such largesse might be beyond the means of some contenders.

Kuwait's last Parliament, widely considered the liveliest in the Arab world, was dissolved by HH the Amir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed Al Sabah, in 1986 at the height of the Gulf war.

Last month two brothers belonging to Singh's aristocratic caste of Thakurs were arrested in Fatehpur, a northern farming area by the Ganges river, for burning to death one of their Harijan, or untouchable, farm workers.

Police said the worker refused to turn his wife over to his bosses for sex.

The untouchables are at the bottom of India's complex caste system and are often exploited ruthlessly. But they make up about 16 percent of the country's population of 820 million and are counted by major political parties for their votes.

The opposition Congress Party, trying to get political mileage out of horrifying incidents in Singh's constituency, walked out of Parliament yesterday, demanding a statement from the prime minister.

(Continued on Page 11)



Murder in Meham

The body of Amir Singh, an independent candidate lies on the road in the north Indian town of Meham in Haryana state on May 17. Singh's murder forced the second postponement of a by-election to the state assembly of Haryana. (Reuters wirephoto) (Story Page 7)

Singh bids to calm caste conflicts

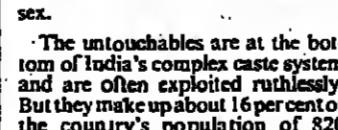
NEW DELHI, May 18. (Reuters) Indian Prime Minister Vishwanath Pratap Singh flew today to his political home in Fatehpur, a northern farming area by the Ganges river, for burning to death one of their Harijan, or untouchable, farm workers.

Police said the worker refused to turn his wife over to his bosses for sex.

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(Continued on Page 11)



Warm welcome

'Bobby', a male gorilla from Tel Aviv Safaripark pounds his chest as he stands nearby a female gorilla, who was sent to Israel from West Germany about one week ago. Bobby, who has been in the park for ten years, has never pounded his chest so much now that a new female gorilla is in residence. (Reuters wirephoto)

Head of the administrative board for the union, Nasser Al Enezi yesterday said that the union and the university administration officially agreed on a deal to end the four-day strike.

Al Enezi added that the agreement was reached following a series of meetings between a union delegation and Dr Sbitai.

TORONTO, May 18. (Reuters) A couple who made love in a hotel room in full sight of a packed baseball stadium have forced the hotel to warn guests they can be seen by the crowd.

The Skydome hotel, built inside Toronto's new stadium, has 70 rooms that give a direct view of the playing field. The couple's sexual performance was a highlight of Tuesday's game between the local Blue Jays and the Seattle Mariners.

"There isn't a more exciting way to watch a baseball game, but for some people it's more exciting than others," hotel manager Ray Thompson said yesterday.

"What our guests do behind closed doors is their own business as long as it's not criminal and there's no damage. But when there are witnesses the guests are subject to immediate eviction and possible criminal charges."

(Continued on Page 11)

Highlight of game

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(Continued on Page 11)

Accord to suspend Kuwait University strike

KUWAIT, May 18. (KUNA) Kuwait University Director Shuaib Abdulla Shuaib said yesterday that the National Union of Kuwait Students - Kuwait University branch - had agreed to suspend the strike intended for Saturday (today).

Head of the administrative board for the union, Nasser Al Enezi yesterday said that the union and the university administration officially agreed on a deal to end the four-day strike.

Al Enezi added that the agreement was reached following a series of meetings between a union delegation and Dr Sbitai.

The deal calls for the readmittance of students who were expelled or suspended during the first and second semesters of the 1989-90 academic year and also those who need a grade point average (GPA) of B or less to be lifted off the probation list. But this condition does not apply to students who exceeded the period allowed for cessation of studies or who do not stick to graduation requirements.

"And hence, we appeal to all students who were expelled or suspended during the past two semesters to report to the students affairs committee of the students affairs



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24 PAGES 150 FILS

Kashmir waits for UN pledge

Benazir drums up support

AMMAN, May 18. (Agencies) Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto arrived today in Jordan, the fourth leg of a regional tour to drum up support for Islamabad's stand in the conflict with India over Kashmir.

In an arrival statement to the official Jordan news agency, Petra, Bhutto described the situation in Kashmir as tragic and called for self-determination for the Muslim majority there.

"The situation in Kashmir is a tragedy and it should be solved quickly before escalation of the conflict,"

"The solution lies in the fulfilment of the international commitment to support the exercise of the right of self-determination for the people of Kashmir," she added.

Bhutto said she will discuss with Jordanian officials "regional and international issues but our attention will be focused on the serious situation in Kashmir and its dangers on the Indo-Pakistan relations."

Prime Minister Mudar Badran and other cabinet members welcomed Bhutto on her arrival from Syria, where she had talks with President Hafez Al Assad.

Bhutto said Kashmir was still waiting for fulfilment of a pledge made to it at the United Nations more than 40 years ago by India, Pakistan and the rest of the world community that it would be able to exercise its right to self-determination.

"The people of Kashmir have risen up to overthrow Indian rule," said Bhutto. "The solution lies in honouring the commitment made by the international community."

Indian Prime Minister Vishwanath Pratap Singh accused Pakistan yesterday of creating war hysteria and said his country was prepared to meet any threat.

He made the charge in Parliament shortly after his junior Foreign Minister, Raja Ramappa, said Pakistan was keeping its troops, tanks and air force on high alert on a border where the two countries have fought three wars since 1947.

Denying allegations that India was creating war hysteria, Singh said Pakistan was doing so by rebuffing Indian peace bids and by arming Muslim militants.

In Islamabad, a Pakistan Defence Ministry spokesman dismissed the Indian charges.

"This situation is being misrepresented," said the spokesman, who declined identification. "Our troops are merely on a routine summer exercise."

He had no information about what Singh meant when he said India had taken steps to deal with the situation.

In Syria yesterday, Pakistani premier said: "I propose to inform the leaders of Syria about the uprising in Kashmir and ... threats to peace in the sub-continent," she told reporters.

At her last stop, Ankara, Bhutto said she had been assured of Turkish support in Cairo next month when Pakistan asks Islamic foreign ministers to back its call for self-determination in Kashmir.

The agency identified the man as J. Gordon Glass but had no details about his age or family.

The British embassy said it had no immediate comment at this stage of the investigation.

A Foreign Office spokesman in London confirmed the death of Glass. The British spokesman said the engineer died in Baghdad on May 16, and was apparently mugged and robbed two days earlier.

"It is possible that he died as a result of his injuries, some of which were to his head," the British spokesman said, adding that the Iraqi authorities "have offered every assistance and have expressed their concern."

The embassy was immediately informed and it asked a British doctor working in Iraq to join the Iraqi team investigating his death at the Baghdad morgue.

Results of the examination will be made public when the team finishes its investigation, INA said.

The agency said Glass, an employee of Graham Johnson Machinery of Coventry, England, arrived May 2 to fix machinery for an Iraqi plant belonging to the Ministry of Industry and Military Industrialization.

INA said he was accompanied by two other British engineers, but did not identify the nature of the Iraq plant or the kind of machinery under repair.

There are 2,500-3,000 British engineers and businessmen in Iraq and many work in plants belonging to the Ministry of Industry and Military Industrialisation, Iraq's



Jordanian Premier Mudar Badran (left) and Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto inspect a guard of honour at Amman military airport. (Reuters wirephoto)

Mystery death of Briton in Iraq

Body found in hotel

BAGHDAD, May 18. (Agencies) A British engineer was found dead in his hotel room under mysterious circumstances since relations between the two countries soured over the past two months.

The man was discovered on Wednesday in his Novotel Hotel room and doctors have yet to determine his cause of death, according to the INA report, which quoted an unidentified spokesman for the Ministry of Interior.

The agency identified the man as J. Gordon Glass but had no details about his age or family.

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INTERNATIONAL



Aircraft rests on roof

The tail of a twin-engine Philippine domestic aircraft rests on the roof of a house while its fuselage was burned when it crashed into a house in a Manila suburb, killing all 21 people on board and four inside the house. (Reuters wirephoto)

Boat people confab

Deadlocked

MANILA, May 18. (Reuters): An international conference on Indo-Chinese boat people was deadlocked over the issue of forcible repatriation to Vietnam, the chairman of the meeting said today.

Sergio Vieira de Mello, regional head for Asia and Oceania of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, told reporters at the end of the 28-nation meeting that failure to solve the issue threatened the programme of granting temporary asylum to boat people in Southeast Asia.

"The longer-term viability of the plan of action depended on the resolution of the problem of those determined (by a screening process) not to be (political) refugees," he said in a summary of the results of the two-day conference.

The screening process is designed to separate genuine political refugees from people seeking more prosperous lives.

The United States and Vietnam oppose forcible repatriation of boat people, but Hong Kong and Southeast Asian nations warned yesterday they would close their doors to new arrivals unless fresh steps were taken to solve an "intolerable" problem.

"Several participants expressed the view a further meeting of the steering committee would only serve a meaningful purpose if progress could be achieved on the outstanding issues," said De Mello.

Allan Jury, the head of the American delegation at the conference, said in an interview that the United States remained opposed to the "involuntary return" people who had fled Vietnam, but he would "convey the beliefs of Southeast Asian states" to Washington.

De Mello admitted he felt the asylum process was in danger of total breakdown, but claimed the meeting was "extremely useful" in taking up issues "where we have lacked agreement so far."

But he said, "there was a serious risk that first asylum would be abandoned through unilateral measures."

The first asylum states of Asia have given temporary refuge to boat people until they can be resettled in developed countries.

US base

(Continued from Page 1)

ceremony friendships or confirm alliances.

"When it comes to Filipino honour and sovereignty, my bedrock belief is that in the final analysis, money is not the measure."

The joint statement did not mention when the next round of talks would be.

But it said the discussions "could include consideration of a new agreement concerning friendship, co-operation and security on the basis of a new relationship between the Philippines and the US in the light of the changing global environment."

But President George Bush warned on Wednesday that the bases, which employ 75,000 Filipinos, were not essential for protecting US interests in the Pacific. He said he was studying alternatives.

At the start of the latest discussions Philippine Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus served formal notice that the present lease on the bases would end on September 16, 1991.

He said it signalled the ending of the "uneven days of lingering colonialism. Henceforth, we shall march forward with our friends abreast, not in tandem."

Hours before the latest round of talks ended, four men in a speeding taxi fired two rifle grenades at US offices in Manila. Only one grenade exploded, on the fourth-floor window ledge of the building that houses US Thomas Jefferson Library, causing "minimal damage to property," the US embassy said.

Kashmir

(Continued from Page 1)

the Indian leaders do create apprehension about their intentions," Bhutto said at a news conference at the end of her one-day visit to Turkey.

"We have responded by intensifying our efforts for the maintenance of peace," said Bhutto.

Bhutto said she had informed the Turkish leaders of Pakistan's efforts to initiate "political dialogue" with India.

She said Pakistan had already proposed to India that both countries redeploy their troops to peacetime location.

Saudi Arabia has denied Iranian reports alleging that Saudi Arabia has pledged to provide military backing to Pakistan in case of war with India over the Kashmir issue.

A Saudi official source last night underlined in a statement to the Saudi Press Agency (SPA), the distinguished Saudi-Pakistani relations and the continuous co-operation between the two countries in various fields.

Authorities recovered from various parts of Srinagar the bodies of a Hindu and Muslim killed by Islamic separatists guiding a four-month-old popular movement for independence, police said.

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Most Helmsley charges dropped

NEW YORK, May 18, (AP): A tax fraud indictment against Leona Helmsley was gutted yesterday by a judge who said state prosecutors were putting the self-styled hotel queen in double jeopardy.

State Supreme Court Justice John Bradley said he dropped 180 of the 188 counts in the indictment because they are similar to those on which Mrs Helmsley was tried in federal court last August.

"The court threw out the heart and soul of the state's case," said Alan Dershowitz, lead lawyer of Mrs. Helmsley's legal team. "New evidence will demonstrate that Mrs Helmsley did not evade taxes."

"I'm very happy," Mrs Helmsley, 70, said tearfully as she left court after hearing Bradley's ruling. She suggested that the case against her was brought only because of her prominence.

"They're after my hide," she said. "I'm, Leona Helmsley."

"I hold my head high because I know that I am an innocent person falsely accused and terribly maligned," she said.

The federal case related solely to Duncellen Hall, the Helmsley's mansion in Greenwich, Connecticut. The Helmsleys were charged with furnishing, renovating and operating the estate by charging its expenses to their business.

Mrs Helmsley was sentenced to four years in prison and fined \$7.1 million in the federal case. She is appealing the conviction and sentence, maintaining that she in fact overpaid her taxes.

Her husband, real estate magnate Harry Helmsley, 80, was found incompetent to stand trial in the federal case. He is trying to avoid a state trial on similar grounds.

He has been examined by a psychiatrist, according to Leslie Geringer of the state attorney general's office, and a hearing on the exam results is scheduled for May 23 before Bradley.

The dropped charges all relate to Duncellen Hall and were dealt with in federal case.

Brando's son kills sister's boyfriend

LOS ANGELES, May 18, (Reuter): A distraught Marlon Brando telephoned police to report his daughter's boyfriend, Dag Dorlet, had been shot to death in an argument on his heavily guarded estate, police said yesterday.

Brando's son, Christian Brando, 32, is being held in jail without bail and was expected to be charged today with the murder of Dorlet, a 26-year-old Tahitian, who had been the boyfriend of Cheyenne Brando.

Police allege Christian Brando killed Dorlet with a single shot to the head after a row in which he claimed Dorlet had mistreated Cheyenne, his 20-year-old sister.

"Marlon Brando was distraught, having known the victim and that his son was involved," police Lieutenant Roo Hall said. "He heard the single shot and called the police and the ambulance service."

"Brando was having peaks and valleys in his emotions, but he was very cooperative," Hall added.

"We're not sure Christian was totally sober, but the row doesn't appear to have been the result of some sort of drunk fest," Hall said. Drugs definitely were not involved." Police also said Cheyenne Brando did not appear to have been seriously injured and bore no sign of injuries.

Police seized a pistol apparently used in the shooting as well as four rifles at the estate. "Christian has indicated he was a gun enthusiast," Hall said.

Dorlet, who has described his occupation as welder and artist, had been a guest on the Brando estate for 10 days and there was no indication there had been any trouble between Dorlet and Christian Brando before the shooting, detective Steve Osti said.

Brando, 66, who won Hollywood Oscar for his films "The Godfather" and "On The Waterfront," was in another part of the 12-room house when the shooting took place, Hall said.

Christian Brando is the actor's son by his marriage to his first wife, Anna Kashfi. Cheyenne is his daughter by his third wife, Tariq, who appeared with him in "Mutiny on the Bounty."

Perched on a hillside overlooking Los Angeles, the estate is protected by guards, video alarm system and barred gates. Brando's nearest neighbour is film star Jack Nicholson.

Christian will be defended by William Kunstler, a civil rights lawyer whose clients have included Martin Luther King and the Chicago Seven in the civil rights disturbances.



Great Jumper

A giant African frog named after a US television host leaped just over 12 feet (3.6m) on Thursday to beat out smaller American competitors and qualify for the finals of the Calaveras County jumping frog jubilee.

The three-pound (1.35-kg) frog Johnny Carson was one of nine African goliath frogs brought to the frog-jumping contest in this northern California mountain town by exotic animal importer Andy Koffman of Seattle.

The frogs, imported from Cameroun, are so big only three of them fit on the contest's eight-inch (203-mm) starting pad.

That is the basic standard applied to all frogs entered in the contest inspired by 19th century humorist Mark Twain's short story "The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County."

In the first qualifying round, Johnny Carson covered 12 feet, four and three-quarter inches (3.87 m), beating Ohio Hopper by four inches (102 mm). Johnny Carson is now eligible for the final jumps on Sunday.

Madonna back in 'Vogue'

NEW YORK, May 18, (AP): Madonna and her *Vogue* made it to the number one position Wednesday among best selling singles top records in the United States. The hit disc was third a week ago.

The top 10 singles, as rated by *Cash Box* magazine, with last week's positions in brackets:

1.(3) *Vogue* — Madonna (Side-Winder).
2.(1) *Nothing Compares To You* — Sinéad O'Connor (Chrysalis).

3.(5) *All I Wanna Do* — Heart (Capitol).

4.(9) *Alright* — Janet Jackson (A and M).

5.(2) *I Want To Be Rich* — Celine Dion (Sire).

6.(11) *Hold On* — Wilson Phillips (SDE).

7.(13) *Sealing All My Love* — Linear (Atlantic).

8.(17) *Poison* — BBD (MCA).

9.(4) *How Can We Be Lovers* — Michael Bolton (Columbia).

10.(6) *What It Takes* — Aerosmith (Geffen).

The top 10 century-western singles, as rated by *Cash Box* magazine, with last week's positions in brackets:

1.(2) *The Domino Theory* — Steve Wariner (MCA).

2.(3) *If Looks Could Kill* — Rodney Crowell (Columbia).

3.(4) *I Watched It All On My Radio* — Lionel Cartwright (MCA).

4.(7) *Walking Shoes* — Tanya Tucker (Capitol).

5.(6) *Guardian Angel* — The Judds (RCA).

6.(8) *I Cried My Last Tear* — Ricky Van Shelton (Columbia).

7.(16) *Pass It On Down* — Alabama (RCA).

8.(1) *I've Over You* — Keith Whitley (RCA).

9.(19) *Running With The Wind* — Eddie Rabbitt (Capitol).

10.(11) *Six-Cane From Fort Worth* — Randy Matson (Mercury).

And in London, America's siren of pop music, Madonna, was honored from third place on the British pop chart by Kylie Minogue, idol of Britain's teen set, while Adamski held onto first place with "Killer."

The Swire Group

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PEOPLE AND PLACES

LAS VEGAS: An Iranian accountant now living in England came back from the brink of disaster twice Thursday to outlast a Reno, Nevada, poker player and win \$355,000 first prize in the World Series of Poker.

Madison Marquette used an all-inclusive pair of sevens on the final hand to top a field of fours held by Hans-Joachim Lenz and win the final Texas Hold'em event in the competition that crowns the world's poker champion.

The final hand was capped a remarkable comeback that saw Marquette, playing in his first championship game, twice draw the card he needed to stay in the game on the final draw after he had each time put all his chips into the pot. "I was dead," Marquette said.

"But when the chips went in every time I had the best hand." (AP)

NEW YORK: Actress Paulette Goddard left New York University more than \$20 million and the papers of her late husband, novelist Eric Maria Remarque, to the university said on Thursday.

Miss Goddard, who died April 23 in Switzerland, endowed seven new professorships with \$1.2 million each, NYU president John Brademas said. They are in film, urban planning, creative writing, literature, European studies, languages and political economy.

In addition, her bequest provided three \$1 million scholarships, \$3 million to establish a fund to attract and assist junior faculty and \$7 million for a special endowment, Brademas said.

The university plans to name a Residence Hall for Miss Goddard. (AP)

LONDON: King, the troubled musical about the life of Dr Martin Luther King Jr., is to close on June 2 after a run of just six weeks, the producers announced.

In a statement Wednesday night, they cited bad reviews and the controversy that dogged the production.

"The London Critics' unseemly and damaging reviews of the production and the continuous and unjustifiable focus on some of the early problems in bringing together the elements of the show, have had the inevitable and obvious effect," the statement said.

The show, about the life of the US civil rights campaigner, took less than \$100,000 (\$170,000) in advance bookings, British press reports said. The production cost £2.5 million (£about \$4.5 million) (AP)

NAIROBI: Three sick donkeys living in a Kenyan courthouse face arrest for disrupting court proceedings, a local justice official warned on Thursday.

Court clerk Jod Siga told the daily Nation the animals were a nuisance because they rolled on the ground raising clouds of dust.

The donkeys had been living for the past 18 months in the basement of the law court in Nairobi 100 km (62 miles) south of Nairobi. All efforts to chase them away or find their owner proved futile. (Reuters)

BELTING: Two Chinese men swapped their wives and the one with the "short, ugly" wife had to throw in a pig and 1,000 roof tiles to elicit a deal.

"After haggling" said an edition of the China Elderly Journal reaching Beijing on Thursday, the two farmers in southern Sichuan province agreed the difference in their wives' beauty was worth 185 yuan (\$40).

"But husband Zhang had no ready cash, so he had to hand over a mother pig and 1,000 roof tiles instead," the newspaper said.

CAIRO: French choreographer Maurice Béjart announced on Wednesday he was giving up his bid to use Egypt's pyramids as a backdrop for an Oriental ballet inspired by Islamic music.

Béjart did not give any reason but workers building a special stage near the Giza pyramids stopped work after complaining they had not been paid.

Béjart, one of the world's foremost choreographers, said he would stage the ballet on Friday, one day later than originally planned, at Cairo's Japanese-built opera house. (Reuters)

WASHINGTON: Raissa Gorbachev will join Barbara Bush in addressing the graduating class at Wellesley College, the White House announced Thursday.

"Mrs Raissa Gorbachev has accepted Mrs Bush's invitation to accompany her to Wellesley" on June 1 during their husbands' summit meetings in Washington, the first lady's press office said.

"Mrs Bush and Mrs Gorbachev will both deliver remarks to the graduating class."

Anne Perez, Mrs Bush's press secretary, said no other joint appearances had yet been planned by the first ladies.

Some 150 students at Wellesley signed a petition last month questioning the choice of Mrs Bush as commencement speaker, saying her prominence was based on who she married. (AP)

Operation

An Australian eye surgeon performs a cataract operation on Tony, a tiger at Ragunan zoo in Jakarta on May 15. The operation, first of its kind in Indonesia, took an hour. (Reuters wirephoto)

Concert

Janet thrills Tokyo fans

TOKYO, May 18, (AP): Janet Jackson paraded her Rhythm Nation through Tokyo Dome last night, her thunderous waves of funk and crisp choreography inspiring about 50,000 people to clap in unison and dance in their assigned seats.

Teenagers in micro-skirts, families with children and men in suits rose as one when the American pop star, silhouetted in coloured smoke, was lifted to the massive stage on a platform and launched into "control."

"Want to get nasty?" She yelled, and two female and four male dancers in various stages of undress backed her as she strutted and rapped her way through "nasty." Fans roared politely in approval.

It was the opening for Miss Jackson's five-night appearance in Japan on her first world tour. She travels next to Osaka and Yokohama, back to the United States and then on to Europe in September.

The energy and enthusiasm of Miss Jackson and her 13-member troupe managed to punch through the cavernous expanse of Tokyo dome, an indoor baseball stadium nicknamed The Big.

Egg. But fans in the middle and upper reaches had to depend on giant television screens showing the action far below, and the sound was out of sync because it took so long to travel to their ears.

"Fiery explosions" heralded "The Knowledge," and the crowd shouted along with Miss Jackson and the on-stage marquee lights she clowned. "Ignorance, no. Bigotry, no. Illiteracy, no."

Tunnel ride

A cyclist winds his way through a tunnel of double-decker buses on Thursday outside parliament in London. (Reuters wirephoto)

Sheen Actor held

LOS ANGELES, May 18, (Reuter): Film star Martin Sheen and three others were arrested when protesters poured red liquid on the wall of a US government building on Wednesday to mark the sixth-month anniversary of the murder of six Jesuit priests in El Salvador.

Sheen, who has been arrested several times previously in protest, and the other three were held on suspicion of causing malicious mischief.

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INTERNATIONAL

150,000 Managua workers end strike

MANAGUA, May 18, (AP): An estimated 150,000 government employees ended a week-long strike that had threatened the new administration, but university students began a protest outside Parliament.

The huge walkouts were a victory for the leftist Sandinista National Liberation Front, which engineered the strikes beginning Friday to press for job security and big pay increases.

The 3-week-old government of President Violeta Barrios de Chamorro promised not to fire those who walked off their jobs and agreed to double salaries for the public employees as part of the strike settlement.

That was about half what the Sandinista-dominated unions originally asked but higher than the 60 per cent Chamorro initially offered.

She has devalued the cordoba, Nicaragua's currency, four times since she took office on April 25; inflation however is averaging 70 per cent monthly, in effect steadily reducing the real wages of workers in this nation of 3.5 million residents.

"Everything is returning to normal. Employees at the banking system cleared out the offices they had occupied and those at the ministries are following suit," presidential spokesman Danilo Lacayo said in a telephone interview.

The international airport reopened and the bus system was getting back into gear.

In Washington, President George Bush complained that a procedural deadlock in the US Congress was holding up a \$300-million aid package for Nicaragua and that he could not disburse \$4 million in emergency help requested by Chamorro until the package is approved.

Alejandro Solizano, a labour leader who supports Chamorro, said the strike more resembled an attempt by the Sandinistas to bring down the new government than a job action.

"The strike was managed directly by a few leaders of the Sandinista Front. It was an attempted coup, carried out by adventurers and holdup men who checkmated the government," Solizano said.

Menem moves out of residence in latest bout with wife

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina, May 18. (AP): President Carlos Menem has moved out of the official residence in an effort to end highly publicised matrimonial strife that has taken on political overtones, the Argentine press reported Wednesday.

A conjugal crisis between Menem and outspoken First Lady Zulema Menem, "threatening to become a question of state," led the president to

abandon the residence in suburban Olivos on May 8, the weekly news-magazine "Somos" reported in its Wednesday edition.

Since then, the magazine said, the 59-year-old president, who led the labour-based Peronist Party to victory in May 14, 1989 elections, has been staying at the apartments of aides and close friends.

Presidential spokesmen declined

immediately to confirm or deny the report, latest in a series that have captured headlines since Menem first gained political prominence as a provincial governor in the 1970s.

Zulema Eva Menem, the couple's 19-year-old daughter, described the report, which also appeared in two Buenos Aires daily newspapers, as "total infamy and slander" in a broadcast interview. Her brother Carlos, 21,

had no immediate comment.

Separation is nothing new for the Menems, both descendants of Syrian immigrants. They have lived apart for various reasons during nearly half of their 24-year marriage.

Lately, however, their differences have taken on political overtones and Menem has publicly described his wife as one of the "harshest critics" of his government's political and economic

policy.

A lawyer and three-term governor of the northwestern province of La Rioja, Menem has won criticism from Labour, the left and sector of his own party for his free-market economy approach aimed at ending economic ills that have plagued Argentina for decades.

Mrs Menem, a striking, fashionably dressed blonde who gives her age as 46,

has adopted a more traditionally Peronist view, repeatedly questioning in public and in the press the effect these policies will have on workers, retirees and the poor.

She has charged that her husband is surrounded by corrupt or untrustworthy aides and advisors and has publicly accused several top officials, including Menem's younger brother Sen. Eduardo Menem, of unspecified misdeeds.

Bogota car blast

BOGOTA, May 18, (AP): A car bomb exploded last night at a shopping centre in Cartagena after President Virgilio Barco accused drug traffickers of trying to take over Colombia. Mayor Manuel Domingo Rojas said at least 35 people were injured.

Drug traffickers claimed responsibility in telephone calls to media in Medellin, a cocaine stronghold. The government has blamed all of the more than 200 bombings nation-wide the past nine months on drug traffickers. Those bombings have killed 259 people.

Cartagena, on Colombia's Caribbean coast, was a popular tourist resort for Americans until drug traffickers detonated a bomb in the Hilton Hotel last year, killing two people.

Yesterday's bomb exploded at the Boca Grande shopping centre in the heart of the high-rise hotel and condominium district. Gov. Guillermo Pinazo of Bolivar state told radio network RCN.

The Colombian Navy said in a statement broadcast by RCN that the car contained about 50 kilograms (110 pounds) of dynamite.

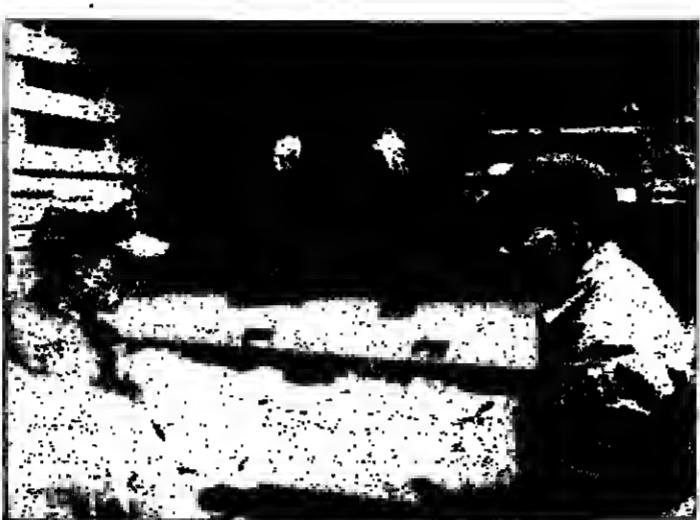
Among the injured were two Parisians, Lara Tana Terrier, 47, and her son Eric, 14. Details of their condition were not available.

The other injured were Colombians.

Earlier yesterday in the capital, Bogota, police discovered a truck bomb with 300 kilograms (660 pounds) of dynamite. The device capable of levelling a large residential area, was found covered in a cargo of beans in the back of a truck, police said.

The truck was in a Bogota parking lot and was searched after the lot's owner became suspicious when the truck had not been moved for several days.

Three car bombs exploded



Colombian police unload on Thursday the last box of 300 kgs of dynamite found in a truck in a parking lot in Bogota. In the last 8 months there have been 272 terrorist bombings that have left 259 people dead. (Reuter wirephoto)

Saturday, killing 28 people.

Drug traffickers are trying to "wipe out an entire institutional government of democratic tradition, of civil and moral values," Barco said Wednesday in a speech at the national police academy.

He compared drug traffickers' barbarity to "the times of Nazism and Fascism."

But drug traffickers are not invulnerable, Barco said. "This is the beginning of the end for

Asylum in Madrid

Cuban defector requests

MADRID, May 18, (AP): The mistress of ceremonies of Cuba's famed Tropicana Nightclub Revue requested asylum in Spain yesterday and was granted temporary residence in Madrid after leaving the group in the middle of its tour.

Amparo Depreste, the 29-year-old Tropicana dancer, told a news conference she was forced to request asylum after she disobeyed a Cuban "political commissar" overseeing the Spanish tour who had ordered her to return home.

There was no immediate comment from the Spanish government on her asylum request.

two rivals for the presidency of the Caribbean nation against each other for a fifth time. Balaguer won three of the previous matchups.

In his news conference yesterday Bosch said, "The central electoral board and Dr Balaguer committed a colossal fraud."

"We are announcing that PDL is going into the streets because the people have been cheated," he added. PDL are the Spanish initials for Bosch's leftist Dominican Liberation Party.

Wednesday's general election pit the

Bosch 405,132, official results showed. Jose Francisco Pena Gomez, a former Socialist Mayor of Santo Domingo and former Bosch protege, was a distant third with 275,545.

Before the election, Bosch claimed his party had information Balaguer's Social Christian Reformist Party had prepared 300,000 phony ballots to rig the election, a charge denied by Balaguer party officials.

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Protests mark Kwangju revolt

Thousands pay homage

KWANGJU, May 18. (AP): The 10th anniversary of the bloodiest rebellion in modern South Korean history was remembered with flowers and street violence today.

The national daily Dong-A Ilbo said about 50,000 students joined in today's protests on more than 150 campuses throughout the country.

There were no immediate reports of injuries or arrests, other reports said.

In Kwangju, the scene of the May 18, 1980, revolt, combat-clad riot police fired volleys of tear gas to break up about 1,000 students trying to enter a school for a rally outlawed by the government.

Then years ago in Kwangju, hundreds of thousands of citizens rose up against the central government to protest a crackdown on political dissent. The protesters drove out police and took control of the city for 10 days before being crushed by tank-led paratroopers.

'Too much freedom'

Kim speaks out

SEOUL, May 18. (UPI): To a woman brought up under a rigid communist ideology in North Korea, anti-government protests in South Korea appear to be a luxury she can hardly understand.

The observation comes from Kim Hyon-but, 28, a confessed North Korean agent who placed a time bomb on a Korean Air jetliner late in 1987. She was sentenced to death but has since been pardoned because of her potential as witness to North Korean authorities.

Kim made her first public appearance when she attended a church service Wednesday, news reports said. She also had a session with Korean news reporters.

"At first I was puzzled to see demonstrations taking place in this country where people live in affluence," Kim told reporters after attending a service at a Baptist church in Seoul, the reports said.

"There are no such demonstrations in North Korea, where what (President) Kim Il-sung says is law. There seems to be too much of freedom in South Korea. I even wonder why such political confusion should be allowed."

She said after nearly three years in the South she came to realize that in a capitalist society freedom is guaranteed and its citizens are encouraged to demonstrate their capabilities, whereas North Korea is a rigid class society where private initiatives are denied.

She said she became a Christian after meeting a minister about a year ago. She said she reads the Bible every day and currently is writing an autobiography telling how she was born, educated, drafted as a terrorist agent and carried out the KAL bombing.

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Riot policemen stand alert amid petrol bombs at Chonnam University in Kwangju on May 17. (Reuters wirephoto)



A South Korean mother and her daughter cry before the grave of her son Kim Kong-Yul, a victim of the Kwangju uprising. (Reuters wirephoto)

Nothing is left to chance in Nagasaki

Excessive security for Akihito

NAGASAKI, May 18. (AP): When the Emperor of Japan leaves his palace in Tokyo, nothing is left to chance.

Determined to eliminate the element of surprise, officials in this scenic coastal city on the southern island of Kyushu have slaved for months over preparations for the arrival of Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko.

Officials here are particularly nervous because the Emperor is to meet Mayor Itoshi Motoshima, who was shot in the back by a rightist in January for saying the late Emperor Hirohito, Akihito's father, bore some war responsibility.

In a taped interview with Barbara Walters of ABC's "20/20" programme, Jiang also spelled out conditions under which dissident Fang Lizhi could leave the US embassy in Beijing, where he has been living since the crackdown, and said 431 people, including 42 students, were still in prison.

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Though the city was quiet on the eve of the visit, about 4,000 police officers were being mobilized to ensure the monarch's safety.

Highlighting the Emperor's four-day stay will be a visit to an atomic bomb memorial at Peace Park soon after his arrival today and

the 41st annual Arbor Day Festival on Sunday.

The Emperor, who is to plant a tree and give a short address, is to stay at the festival for less than one hour, but officials reportedly are spending 7 million yen (\$30,000) to deodorize a nearby pig farm.

Officials also are planning to erect a curtain to keep the farm out of the royal couple's sight, and have told media hoping to cover the event by helicopter not to create any ruckus that might disturb the farm animals.

"Sure, if the wind is right it could smell pretty bad at the festival," said Yoichi Tanaka, head of general affairs for the Nagasaki prefectural trade union. "But it's a pig farm, after all, and there really isn't any need to try to hide that."

The strengthened police presence prompted a local newspaper, the Nagasaki Shim-

bun, to complain in an editorial yesterday that "excessive security" could dampen "the Nagasaki people's natural desire to welcome their Emperor."

The editorial, however, acknowledged the need for tight security wherever the Emperor goes. Leftist radicals strongly oppose the monarchy, and often have used violence to gain publicity for their views.

The same month that Motoshima was shot, leftists claimed responsibility for firing projectiles that slightly damaged the home of the Emperor's younger brother, Prince Hitachi.

Public opinion polls indicate the overwhelming majority of Japanese support the monarchy, but there are painful memories of World War II, when the Emperor's name was used to inspire Japan's troops.

Record setting auction of art

TOKYO, May 18. (AP): The wealthy Japanese businessman identified as the record-setting purchaser of Van Gogh's "Portrait of Dr Gachet" earlier this week has also bought a painting by another French master, Jean-Auguste-Dominique Ingres.

Kyodo News Service reported that Ryoko Saito, chairman and president of Japan's second-largest paper company, Daishowa Paper Manufacturing Co., made the purchase of "An Moulin de la Galette" yesterday for \$78.1 million at an auction at Sotheby's New York.

"I haven't heard yet from the art dealer, but if I were the buyer I couldn't be happier," he told Kyodo after news of the sale reached Japan this morning.

Saito could not be reached for immediate comment, and Daishowa officials refused to confirm or deny the reports, saying Saito's activities on the art market were his "private affair."

Japanese newspapers said that Saito plans to borrow money on his considerable land holdings to pay for the two paintings. He is frequently listed among Japan's richest men. According to the Yomiuri Shimbun newspaper, Saito paid more than \$3 million in taxes last year.

"Works by Van Gogh or Renoir rarely go on sale, so I'm very fortunate. In addition, I think it is wonderful that they will come to Japan," Saito told Kyodo.

On an earlier auction in New York Tuesday at Christie's, a somber portrait by Vincent Van Gogh of his doctor was sold for \$12.5 million to the Kobayashi Gallery of Tokyo. It was the highest purchase price ever for a single painting.

Though gallery owner Hideko Kobayashi refused to name his client, Japanese newspapers identified Saito as the buyer.

Saito, 74, served as president of Daishowa between 1971 and 1982 and is said to remain its de facto leader. Two of his children act as president and chairman of the company.

Known as a veteran art collector, Saito amassed a substantial collection during the postwar era. However, he had to sell off many works after the oil shocks of the 1970s, when his paper concern hit bad times. Profits have since revived, enabling him to indulge in his favorite hobby.

Following the Van Gogh purchase, Saito told the Yomiuri, "It cost 5 billion yen (\$33 million) more than I expected, but that's nothing. Next I want the Renoir."

Torture routine in Burmese prisons

Jailed British physicist says

BANGKOK, May 18. (AP): A Briton detained for three months in Burma said yesterday that he was evidence that torture, including electric shocks and beatings, was routinely used on prisoners he met there.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Li Jinhu, speaking at a weekly briefing, also said recent student demonstrations in Bulgaria, the Soviet Union and Hong Kong in support of pro-democracy students in China were inappropriate and based on ignorance.

Li expressed China's "strong protest" over a proclamation signed by US President George Bush Saturday designating May 13 a national day in support of human rights.

China accused the United States yesterday of smearing the Chinese government over its human rights record and denied Amnesty International charges of widespread human rights violations.

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China President Yang Shangkun was quoted yesterday as saying last year's bloody crackdown on pro-democracy demonstrators in Beijing represented a triumph for socialism.

Security officials who interrogated him said they were unsure about Vietnam's future political stability, Marrow told a news conference Thursday.

He said one of the officials told him: "We would not entertain any investment project in Vietnam in which you could not get your return cut in more than two years. We cannot see the political stability of the country, and further into the future than that." (Reuters photo)

It didn't hurt Chinese socialism," Yang said in remarks to the Mexican news agency Notimex when asked about the military crackdown in and around Tiananmen Square.

"It strengthened the government's faith in the socialist system and allowed us to dismantle the seductive plots."

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On Tuesday, Lee's choice for Taiwan's new premier, Defence Minister Hau Pei-Tsun, for the first time said publicly the reality was that China was "one country with two governments."

Since 1949, the nationalists have maintained they are the legitimate government of all China, while Beijing considers Taipei merely the capital of a province.

The government now has a major chance to

Cars set on fire in protest

TOKYO, May 18. (UPI): Six cars parked at six different locations linked to the Justice Ministry erupted in flames at about the same time yesterday, and police said they suspect a leftist group opposed to next week's visit by South Korean President Roh Tae Woo.

No one was injured in the attacks on cars parked outside the homes of two Justice Ministry officials and four ministry facilities at about 3 am, police said.

Police said they found coffee cans, wires and timing devices at the scenes of the fires.

Similar devices have been used in the past by the leftist radical group Chukakuha, or middle-class revolutionaries, police said. And police said they suspect the group was responsible for the fires.

The group has pledged to disrupt the visit of Roh's May 24-26 visit because they believe it represents Japan's effort to establish control over East Asia in much the same way Tokyo did in a policy early this century which eventually led to Japan's involvement in World War II, said the Kyodo News Service.

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press communist rebellion"—the state of war that has existed across the Taiwan straits for more than four decades.

Lee may also announce a change in Taipei's "three-no" policy of "no contact, no compromise, no negotiation" with the Beijing government, analysts said.

A change would give the rhetoric an opportunity to catch up with reality. The "three-maybes" as Taiwan has relaxed rules restricting travel, trade, sports events



Concrete houses help to avoid deaths

YODURAMUNDI, India, May 18. (Reuters): Rescuers had feared the worst for the 7,000 people living on an island that faced the full force of India's worst storm in a decade.

But their fears turned to relief when they finally reached Yoduramundi off the coast of southern India's Andhra Pradesh state to find only two people had been killed in the cyclone's "monstrous winds".

The official state death toll of 722 from the May 9 storm continues to rise as rescuers find more bodies in remote areas.

Yoduramundi took the full force of the cyclone's 240 kph (145 mph per hour) winds and the tidal waves they whipped up.

But many deaths were prevented by the concrete houses the state government had funded to replace largely mud-walled and thatched houses.

"We got on top of these buildings and to prevent us being blown away by the monstrous winds, we tied ropes between strong points and held onto them for dear life,"

islander Ramesh Babu told Reuters yesterday.

Indian air force helicopters reached the island and started dropping potable water and food last Saturday, three days after the cyclone hit.

Now that the shock of the devastation has worn off, the islanders, who earn their living mainly by fishing, are starting to think about putting their lives back together.

"Out of 250 fishing boats on the island, only 15 are intact," Babu said.

"A fisherman normally earns 30 to 50 rupees (two to three dollars) a day. Now it's nil. The government has to give us loans immediately or we are sunk," he said.

A small lake is the island's only source of drinking water.

"It was full of carcasses. We've taken them all out, but the water is still polluted. The government will have to help us pump it dry and then we can let it fill up again with clean water," said Koltaiah Naidu.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Hashish ring arrested: Federal drug agents arrested seven suspects, halting what they called an international hashish ring stretching from Pakistan to the US state of Michigan.

"This is the most significant hashish trafficking organisation that we've imobilised," said Johnnie Granados, a special agent with the Drug Enforcement Administration in Detroit. "I can't remember an organisation wider in scope that has generated wholesale profits as this one."

The ring moved more than 50 tons of hashish worth more than \$300 million from 1979-87, authorities said. (UPI)

India to sell airbuses: State-run Indian Airlines will sell four A320 airbuses scheduled for delivery and lease out another 14 grounded since one of its airbuses crashed in February, a spokesman for the airline said on Thursday.

The spokesman said the four A320s were ready for delivery at Toulouse, headquarters of the four-nation European Airbus Industrie that manufactures the A320, one of the world's most sophisticated aircraft.

The 14 grounded A320s would be leased out for at least six months, he said.

India in 1984 agreed to buy a total of 31 A320s and is awaiting delivery of 10 of the aircraft. (Reuters)

Pakistan unrest

Death toll 13

KARACHI, May 18. (Agencies): The death toll from a week of ethnic violence in Pakistan's biggest city of Karachi rose to 13 today after a young man was killed by an unknown gunman in the street, police said.

A senior member of the political party representing refugees from India was killed last night by a volley of shots fired from a car, police said.

The body of a third man, believed to have been shot, was recovered today.

Ethnic violence, which has gripped Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto's home province of Sind since 1986, has also spread to Hyderabad, 150 km (90 miles) from Karachi.

Nineteen people have been killed in Hyderabad in the past five days. Parts of the city remain under curfew to prevent renewed clashes between Mohajirs, Sindhis and people from other provinces.

Tamil rebels assault policemen: Armed Tamil rebels waylaid 15 Sinhalese and Muslim policemen returning from a soccer

match in eastern Sri Lanka and clubbed them with their rifle butts, military officials said yesterday.

Six of the policemen required hospital treatment after Thursday's attack at Samanthurai in the Ampara district, 200 kms (125 miles) east of Colombo, said the officials who cannot be identified under briefing rules.

The policemen were ordered off a bus by members of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, the officials said.

On Tuesday, Tamil Tigers abducted 19 policemen returning from soccer practice in Kalimunai, also in the Ampara district, and released them the next day, the officials said. (AP)

Smuggled letters confiscated:

Three letters confiscated at the Katunayake international airport in Colombo, Sri Lanka, are being investigated, according to leader of the House of Parliament, Ranil Wickremasinghe.

Answering a question in the house yesterday, Wickremasinghe said these letters were confiscated by customs while being smuggled to foreign countries.

These letters are alleged to have been addressed by a Member of Parliament, Mahinda Rajapakse, who belongs to the leading opposition Sri Lanka Freedom Party, to Amnesty International, editor of the Tamil Times, based in London, Rajanayagam, and human rights worker in London, W.T. Fernando. (Kuna)

Tree in Calcutta catches fire and becomes a shrine

CALCUTTA, May 18. (Reuters): A 50-year-old tree standing in a Calcutta municipal park burst into flames a few months ago and is now famous as a Hindu shrine.

For believers, it has become the abode of Hindu god Shiva the destroyer who wears a cobra snake as a necklace.

The tree's transformation to divine repository was sudden. It caught fire in January and after the blaze was put out bystanders were astonished to see through a split in the trunk that inside was a stone object resembling a lingam, the phallic symbol of Shiva.

It was too big to have been placed in the tree trunk through the aperture and people believed it had materialised from within.

Harendra Nath Patra, a gardener who has lived for several years in a tiny house in the shadow of the tree, said: "It suddenly caught fire on January 21. We called the fire brigade and they began spraying water to put out the fire.

"Then we saw a white snake come out of the crack. We looked inside and found the Shiva

lingam."

As word spread about the lingam, worshippers of Shiva began to gather in the park.

"People began to say 'god has emerged' and the prayers began. I also pray here," Patra said.

Wealthy businessmen from the Marwari community, originally from the desert lands of Rajasthan, were among the first to come to pray that their ventures be blessed with success. Women and children began daily rituals of prayer.

Sharma, fearing arrest, appealed to the high court that there was a move to falsely implicate him and sought a court directive to order police to not to arrest him.

The high court agreed to stay the arrest till his petition was disposed of.

Agitated Congress (I) members disrupted proceedings, claiming the National Front government of Singh has begun a campaign of defamation and harassment against them.

A.G. Kulkarni of the opposition Congress (I) Party warned Singh's administration that it would collapse if it continued to harass the opposition members with false cases.

He was supported by former steel minister M.L. Fotedar, who accused the government of indulging in political vendettas and harassment of the political opponents.

"We do not want to be vindictive. We do not believe in harassment of opponents, but the law of the land should take its own course," said M.S. Gurupadavamy, the leader of the Janata Dal, the main constituent of the National Front alliance.

Simultaneously, Dandavate announced the increase while moving the finance bill in the Lok Sabha Wednesday. In his budget proposals for 1990-91, he had imposed an inland air travel tax at ten per cent on the full fare instead of the basic fare as was in force till then. The modification announced now is to narrow down the gap between the US dollar fare and the Indian rupee fare.

Dandavate announced many other minor modifications in his budget proposals, offering some concessions in direct and indirect taxes. Through his original proposals, he had planned to mop up Rs 1,959 crores of additional revenue. The net revenue loss involved in the changes made now are expected to be relatively small and would be made good by better tax collection, he said.

The finance bill, which gives effect to the budget proposals, was passed

EEC urged to reassess policy

De Klerk tours UK

LONDON, May 18. (Reuters): South African President F.W. de Klerk meets Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, the staunchest ally of his apartheid reform programme, in Britain this weekend.

But he talks with Thatcher, the only European leader to unilaterally ease anti-apartheid sanctions in response to his reform drive, could coincide with the biggest protests of his 18-day European tour.

In a last-minute upgrade of his welcome, De Klerk was met at London's Heathrow airport late yesterday by British deputy Prime Minister Sir Geoffrey Howe.

Officials said De Klerk would spend today mainly in private meetings with businessmen and diplomats.

They said he would see Thatcher at her Chequers country retreat tomorrow to brief her of his progress towards the dismantling of apartheid.

De Klerk has won praise and cautious promises of support in France, Greece, Portugal and Belgium for his initiatives, including direct talks with Nelson Mandela's African National Congress (ANC).

He is also asking the European Economic Community (EEC) to reassess its policy of stiff anti-apartheid sanctions. He says they are hampering his ability to implement change in South Africa.

Thatcher, who has long questioned the effectiveness of economic sanctions for political pressure, was the first Western government leader to invite De Klerk to visit after he announced sweeping reforms on February 2.

In a far-reaching address to parliament, De Klerk lifted a 30-



Youth rally

Black nationalist leader Nelson Mandela told the world community on Thursday it was too soon to lift economic and political sanctions against South Africa.

He told a youth rally in Algiers that South African President F.W. de Klerk, who has pledged to end apartheid gradually, had not yet done enough.

"There are various countries in Europe, unfortunately even in Africa, which feel De Klerk has done enough to compel us to lift sanctions. We do not agree,"

Mandela told thousands of cheering youths after a concert of modern Algeria music.

Mandela and his wife Winnie raise their arms in a victory salute at the end of the youth rally. (Reuters wirephoto)

Doe urges Liberians to fight

MONROVIA, May 18. (Reuters): President Samuel Doe made a desperate appeal today to all Liberians, even old men, to use any weapons they could find to fight rebels poised to topple him.

He also vowed to fight rebel leader Charles Taylor if he carried out his threat to attack the capital Monrovia.

"If you are a loyal citizen then go out and defend your country," he told a meeting of tribal and political chiefs.

Doe, wearing his general's uniform and speaking without a text, called on retired soldiers to re-enlist, and on old men and women and students to take up arms.

"If the rebels will not surrender I will make them surrender," he said.

Doe has frequently vowed to crush the rebels since they invaded Liberia's northeast Nimba county last December.

From just 150 men armed with everything from bazookas to bows and arrows the rebels have grown to a 5,000-strong force.

Doe has recruited 3,000 youngsters into his 5,800-man army since March but they have folded before a two-pronged rebel onslaught west and south of Nimba.

The guerrillas are now within a few km (miles) of Liberia's second city Gbarnga.

Meham election cancelled again

Independent candidate found dead

By Thomas Abraham

Arab Times correspondent

NEW DELHI, May 18. By-election to the Mehama assembly seat, from where Haryana Chief Minister Om Prakash Chautala is seeking election, was countermanded for the second time yesterday after the murder of an independent candidate.

Reports reaching here said the bullet-riddled body of the candidate, Amir Singh, was found abandoned in an adjoining district yesterday morning. Soon after, the election commission announced its decision to countermand the polls, as provided under the rules.

The by-election was countermanded earlier after large-scale violence and rigging when polling was first held in February, with Chautala accused of having engineered boot capturing and intimidated voters with the help of the law and order machinery.

Chautala is the eldest son of Deputy Prime Minister Devi Lal and was the Janata Dal's official candidate for the by-election. His main rival is Anand Singh Dangi, a party rebel, who has been named in the first information report about yesterday's murder.

Chautala succeeded Devi Lal as Haryana chief minister when the latter was appointed deputy prime minister. He has to get elected to the legislative assembly before June 2 to continue as chief minister or step down. Chautala is contesting from two constituencies this time, the second being Dariba Kalan, which is now his only hope. Like Mehama, polling at Dariba Kalan is also scheduled for May 26.

Amir Singh was among the 29 candidates in the fray for the Mehama seat. With the countermanding of the by-election, the entire poll process has to be gone through all over again.

Police fired on a mob that thwarted the arrest of a state legislator candidate sought in the murder of a rival candidate, killing at least three people, news reports said today.

United News of India said the trouble started after police arrived in Mehta to arrest Anand Singh Dangi for the killing of Amir Singh.

No new poll date has been set.

Air fares to go up

By Thomas Abraham

Arab Times correspondent

NEW DELHI, May 18. inland air travel will be slightly costlier in India now, with Finance Minister Madhu Dandavate hiking the tax on the total fare from ten to fifteen per cent.

Dandavate announced the increase while moving the finance bill in the Lok Sabha Wednesday. In his budget proposals for 1990-91, he had imposed an inland air travel tax at ten per cent on the full fare instead of the basic fare as was in force till then. The modification announced now is to narrow down the gap between the US dollar fare and the Indian rupee fare.

He was supported by former steel minister M.L. Fotedar, who accused the government of indulging in political vendettas and harassment of the political opponents.

"We do not want to be vindictive. We do not believe in harassment of opponents, but the law of the land should take its own course," said M.S. Gurupadavamy, the leader of the Janata Dal, the main constituent of the National Front alliance.

Simultaneously, Dandavate announced many other minor modifications in his budget proposals, offering some concessions in direct and indirect taxes. Through his original proposals, he had planned to mop up Rs 1,959 crores of additional revenue.

The net revenue loss involved in the changes made now are expected to be relatively small and would be made good by better tax collection, he said.

The finance bill, which gives effect to the budget proposals, was passed

by the Lok Sabha last night.Replying to the debate on the hill, Dandavate rejected the demand for raising the income tax exemption limit beyond Rs 22,000. The increase in the prices of petrol and diesel was an unpleasant decision forced on the government by the severe economic constraints under which it had to function, he said.

Among the concessions announced by Dandavate was a five percentage point reduction at all levels of tax for co-operative societies.

He has also liberalised the deduction in regard to expenses incurred on handicapped children, raising the qualifying income limit of parents or guardians from Rs 60,000 to Rs 100,000.

There has been some uncertainty in regard to the number of days that a person employed as a member of the crew of an Indian ship can spend in India for that year under the income tax act. Dandavate put the matter beyond doubt by clarifying that such crew members would lose their non-resident status only if they are in India for more than 182 days in

that year.

Among the indirect tax concessions, Dandavate has provided for duty free high speed diesel to small fishermen using mechanised vessels.

In the budget, Dandavate had imposed differential rates of excise duty on purified terephthalic acid (PTA) and dimethyl terephthalate (DMT), which are used in the manufacture of polyester staple fibre and yarn. Now, both will attract a uniform rate of 15 per cent.

Other sectors items benefiting from the concessions included the tea industry, mini-cement plants, synthetic woven sacks, metal containers and textile processing machinery. Excise duty on both blank and recorded audio cassettes has been removed but there is a marginal increase in the duty on the magnetic tape used in the manufacture of such cassettes.

World News Roundup

America

Star wars theft: A marine corps sergeant has been charged with stealing government property and accused of taking two computers and 60 floppy disks of secret data from the "star wars" office at the Pentagon, the Defence Department announced. (AP)

6-legged walking robot: A six-legged, 12-foot-tall (3.7-metre-tall) walking robot designed for NASA to explore rugged terrain on Mars and the moon took its first steps at Carnegie Mellon University, the school announced Thursday in Pittsburgh.

Nasa sets launch date: Nasa on Thursday set May 30 as a possible target launch date for space shuttle Columbia, grounded for several weeks because of a bad cooling valve that had to be replaced. (AP)

US arts awards: Novelist E.L. Doctorow, humorist Garrison Keillor and 43 other artists, writers, composers and architects were honored Wednesday by the American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters. (AP)

Sammy Davis Jr tributes: Fans and stars, led by Frank Sinatra and Shirley MacLaine, paid tribute to Sammy Davis Jr., the entertainment world's "Mr. Wonderful" who died on Wednesday after an eight-month battle with throat cancer. (Reuters)

Muppet movie: Despite the death of Jim Henson, Ponce D. Lion and the other puppets he created will still get a series of the Disney television channel, and a 3-D muppet movie will be produced as planned, a Disney spokesman said. (AP)

Aggressive pneumonia killed Henson: Muppet creator Jim Henson was killed by an unusually quick-spreading form of bacterial pneumonia, a doctor who treated him said.

David M. Gelmont, director of intensive care at New York hospital — Cornell Medical Centre in New York, said the 53-year-old puppeteer apparently was healthy until coming with flu-like symptoms Friday. (AP)

Plane designer Drzewiecki dies: George Drzewiecki, a Polish-born engineer who designed Poland's first plane to cross the Atlantic, has died in Ottawa. He was 87.

Drzewiecki, who died Tuesday in a local hospital, moved to Ottawa after World War II. The cause of death was not given. (AP)

Animal abuse: A Soviet touring circus that shut down has left some of its animals languishing "like sardines" in cramped transport cages for several weeks, and there is little hope of relief soon, the Humane Society said Thursday in Newark, New Jersey. (AP)

Reagan praises nation: Former president Ronald Reagan, claiming the United States was "preordained to carry the lamp of freedom for the world," said Friday the nation should remain "bold and brash in our democratic ideals."

US to install detectors: The Federal Aviation Administration is going ahead with the installation of six plastic bomb detectors at US airports despite evidence the devices would have missed the explosive that destroyed Pan Am Flight 103 in December 1988.

But FAA administrator James Busey told the House Foreign Affairs Committee that he would wait for further tests by scientists and engineers before requiring airlines to buy 150 of the \$1 million devices. (Reuters)

Boeing wheel falls off: Urgent checks have been ordered on Boeing 737s after a steering wheel came off in a co-pilot's hands during a flight, the Federal Aviation Administration said on Thursday.

The FAA has issued an emergency order to operators of 378 Boeing 737s built in the past two years after the incident aboard a West German airliner.

Published reports said there were no passengers on the plane at the time. (Reuters)

Pentagon to recommend: A Pentagon task force is recommending that the government spend \$100 million a year to develop advanced video systems such as high-definition TV, a published report said Thursday.

That would be a 10-fold increase over what the Pentagon agency charged with HDTV development sought and received this year for advanced TV research. (AP)

Son sought in kid slayings: Police on Thursday sought a man whose elderly parents' bodies were found in the trunk of an abandoned car, along with that of his 93-year-old grandmother, authorities said.

The bodies were discovered Wednesday in a car registered to one of the victims, Forest Jones, 78, officials said. Also killed were Jones' wife, Una, 72, and her mother, Ivy Welch. (AP)

Pohlill voice box removed: Freed American hostage Robert Pohlill had his cancerous larynx — the voice box — removed on Thursday and surgeons said his condition was good with full recovery expected.

A spokesman at Walter Reed army medical centre said Pohlill, 56, was resting after the four-hour operation. (Reuters)

US networks boycott: The major American television networks — ABC, CBS and NBC — boycotted the "Photo opportunities" at the White House Wednesday because of new curbs on the number of cameras allowed to film the events. (UPI)

Trek for POWs: A small army of US military veterans on motorcycles began a cross-country trek Wednesday to draw attention to American soldiers still unaccounted for in Southeast Asia. (UPI)

Herald new Bible: Church leaders and theologians in Pittsburgh heralded the arrival of the new revised standard version of the Bible, changed to eliminate some masculine references and clarify verses. (AP)

New Bible heralded: Church leaders and theologians in Pittsburgh heralded the arrival of the new revised standard version of the Bible, changed to eliminate some masculine references and clarify verses.

The new translation will bring the word of God to many, both inside and outside the churches, in fresh language, commission chairman Thomas Best of the World Council of Churches said in a cable from Geneva, Switzerland.

Former girlfriend

Jilted lover kills

SEATTLE, May 18, (AP): An Iranian army deserter stalked and murdered his ex-girlfriend and her new lover because "he couldn't have her, nobody could," a prosecutor said in opening statement.

Prosecuting attorney Katherine Goater

said yesterday Azizollah Mazoom shot his former girlfriend Marjan Mobsenina, 18, and her companion Ebrahim Sharif-Kashani, 27, because he would not accept her rejection.

Mazoom and Mobsenina became involved in 1988, but Marjan later ended the relationship to go out with an American she met while studying at Sacramento city college. Mazoom continued to trail her, threatened her, and at one point appeared to have beaten her, Goater said.

The case is "a set of facts on an age-old theme of love and rejection," Goater told the seven-woman, five-man King County superior court jury. "The defendant's pride selfishness and unwillingness to let her accept her rejection of him."

Mazoom, 24, faces two counts of aggravated first-degree murder in the July 25, 1989, death. The two were shot down the morning of July 25, 1989, on the University of Washington campus before dozens of onlookers.

Mazoom is being held in the King County jail without bail. He does not have a prior criminal record.

Prosecutors said they would not seek the death penalty in the case.



Mitterrand honoured

The last survivor of a Polynesian dynasty pledged allegiance to France on Thursday in a cave ceremony to honour visiting French President Francois Mitterrand.

Mitterrand's stop in Rurutu, which straddles the tropic of Capricorn, was the first visit by a French president to the Austral Islands, one of the five island clusters that comprise French Polynesia.

In a dim, high-roofed ancestral cave, the great grandson of King Tautauri IV, who ceded the 10-km (six-mile) long island of Rurutu to France in 1900, handed over the dynasty's last book of traditional laws.

"We are giving you these laws for safe-keeping," said Meearoa Teuranti. "They no longer have any value for us because we are now full French citizens." (Reuters)

Europe

Thatcher old-fashioned: UK Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher was accused Friday of being out of touch with the "real women" of Britain.

The criticism came not from a UK opposition politician, but from a woman MP belonging to the prime minister's own Conservative Party.

The Conservative MP Theresa Gorman accused the prime minister of being old-fashioned and swimming against the tide of modern thinking about women. (Reuters)

France

Fingers Reunited

SYDNEY, May 18, (Reuters): Two Australian fingers have been returned to their owner after spending the last 23 years hidden in a vegetable jar.

But another resident of Bendigo in Victoria is contesting ownership, telling police he is sentimentally attached to the fingers he used to keep in a matchbox.

The tale of two digits has preoccupied

Bendigo since Sunday when a young couple walked into the former gold rush town's police station holding a jar containing two fingers pickle in methylated spirits.

Senior sergeant Graham Aitken said they had found the jar when cleaning out the garden shed at their house on Kneebone Street.

Police contacted the two previous owners of the house, who had lived there for a total of 14 years, but they knew nothing about the jar or its contents.

The 23-year-old gunman seized the magistrates at a courthouse in Metz, eastern France, but released them unharmed when police freed his girlfriend. (Reuters)

French gunman arrested: An armed man was arrested on Thursday after forcing police to release his girlfriend by seizing two women magistrates.

The 23-year-old gunman seized the magistrates at a courthouse in Metz, eastern France, but released them unharmed when police freed his girlfriend. (Reuters)

France's TGV tops own record:

France's high-speed TGV train broke its own

world speed record for the second time in 10

days on Friday when it reached a speed of just

over 515 kilometres per hour (322 miles per

hour), the SNCF national railway said.

The new record of 515.3 kph, set near Tours,

five kph (three mph) faster than last week's

record on the same line, the SNCF added. (Reuters)

Abducted teacher killed: The body of a Thai teacher who was kidnapped by Muslim separatists for ransom was found abandoned in the mountains of southern Thailand on Thursday, police said.

Preech Sae Lim, 33, was kidnapped on May 5 by guerrillas demanding 200,000 baht (\$58,000) in ransom. Police said he was stabbed to death.

Four thousand teachers went on strike in southern Narathiwat province on Thursday demanding Preech's release. (Reuters)

HK worker charged with kidnap:

A Hong Kong construction worker was charged on Thursday with kidnapping a millionaire and holding him for ransom.

Tse Kook Keung, 24, appeared in court and was formally charged with forcefully taking and detaining 60-year-old property magnate Teh-Hue against his will with intention to procure a ransom. He made no plea.

Wang, who was kidnapped for the second

time in seven years, is still missing despite his family's payment of \$30 million US as part of the ransom demand, a police officer told the court. (Reuters)

Expedition on the rocks: A Hovercraft taking a Sino-British expedition to trace the source of the Yangtze, China's longest river, has run onto rocks but no one was injured, the China News Service (CNS) said on Friday.

The British-built vessel, carrying team members, was buffeted by strong winds and snowstorms and hurried against the rocky west bank of the Jinsha Jiang, a tributary of the Yangtze river in China's central province of Sichuan, on Tuesday. (Reuters)

Akihito speech not a 'political':

Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu said

Friday that his government does not intend to

use the pending speech by Emperor Akihito to

welcome visiting South Korean President Roh Tae Woo as a "political tool."

The carved ivory netsuke by the artist

Tomotada dated from the late 18th century, Sotheby's spokeswoman Beth McHattie said yester-

day.

"Au Moulin de la Galette," by Pierre-Auguste Renoir, sold to an unidentified bidder after 10

minutes of tension-filled bidding from two potential buyers on the telephone. The bidding jumped

up in million-dollar increments and the crowd

gasped and broke into applause when the hammer finally came down.

"Galgue" became the second most expensive

painting of all time surpassing the \$53.9 million

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Sotheby's said the painting, which had been

removed from display by the German Nazis in a

pre-war purge of non-Aryan art, an expert said

yesterday.

"They wanted classical 19th century German

art and not anything that was modern," said Stefan Mann, a researcher at Frankfurt's Stedel Museum.

A music manuscript by Ludwig van Beethoven

and a letter from him to a woman friend broke world auction records for the composer yesterday. Sotheby's said.

Otto Haas, a London dealer, paid £528,000

(\$892,000) for the 16-page first movement of the Sonata for Violoncello and Piano in a major, a celebrated piece of chamber music.

A collector paid a record £154,000 (\$260,337)

for a Japanese netsuke ornament, Sotheby's auction house has announced.

The carved ivory netsuke by the artist

Tomotada dated from the late 18th century, Sotheby's spokeswoman Beth McHattie said yester-

day.

"Au Moulin de la Galette," by Pierre-Auguste

Renoir, sold to an unidentified bidder after 10

minutes of tension-filled bidding from two potential buyers on the telephone. The bidding jumped

up in million-dollar increments and the crowd

gasped and broke into applause when the hammer

finally came down.

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"They wanted classical 19th century German

Arab or Jew, it's all the same to France's xenophobes

PARIS, May 18, (Reuters): "Dirty Jew dirty Arab" spat the masked attackers. It was all the same to them.

The assault on a high school teacher who was beaten for lecturing against racism and anti-Semitism epitomised contemporary right-wing xenophobia in France.

It equates French Jews with North African Arab immigrants as alien parasites.

But its attacks on the latter are far more overt because the racists sense that whereas very few French would admit to a prejudice against Jews, many present the Arabs, race relations experts say.

The teacher, Christiane Guiard of Emile Zola College in Royan, near Bordeaux, is neither Arab nor Jew.

She was attacked on Monday for instructing pupils that, in France, racism is not an opinion but a crime.

She was pointing out that racism often goes hand-in-hand with anti-Semitism, that it can lead to outrages such as the May 10 desecration of the Jewish cemetery in the southern town of Carpentras, in which a body was dug up and impaled.

A national outcry over the incident prompted the media to turn their attention to all

manifestations of anti-Semitism.

This narrow focus in turn prompted race relations experts and leading politicians to point out that the Carpentras attack should not obscure the fact that Arabs and Africans are the main victims of French xenophobia.

Racism and anti-Semitism were inextricably linked, they said. Unless they were combated as a single evil and not with selective outrage, the problem would grow.

When the National Assembly (Parliament) observed a minute's silence on Wednesday for the Carpentras victims, Speaker Laurent Fabius, a former prime minister of Jewish

descent, said the shameful attack "did not happen on its own."

"It was preceded by other acts, committed against other communities and by a climate of twisting of history, so-called innocent jukes, insults, verbal aggression."

Prime Minister Michel Rocard said previous attacks "had less impact but were no less serious."

Politicians, contemporary historians and race relations specialists said the desecration had drawn public attention to anti-Semitism.

More than 100,000 people — among them President Francois Mitterrand and Rocard

— took to the streets of Paris on Monday to demonstrate against anti-Semitism.

The Carpentras incident had provided a shock to galvanise public resistance to insidious far-right propaganda, but would it last?

"If they had demonstrated in such numbers against the attacks on (Arab) immigrants there would perhaps not have been this rise in overt anti-Semitism," said Malik Boulih.

Mitterrand warned against race hatred after attacks on North African youths in mid-March left one dead, another in an irreversible coma and a third paralysed.

"Anti-Arab racism goes much deeper here than anti-Semitism. There is only a minority against it, whereas anti-Semitism is generally condemned," said historian Madeleine Reberiou.

"Arab and African immigrants are the people most threatened by racism in their daily lives," she added.

Bouth agreed there was "not the same consensus in France" against anti-immigrant racism as against anti-Semitism.

But both said the two currents were part of the same rising tide of xenophobia, fuelled by the extreme-right national front.

Two Germanys sign economic union pact

'This is a historic hour,' says Kohl

BONN, May 18, (AP): The two German nations signed a historic treaty today that will make them a single economic entity in less than seven weeks and plunge East Germany into the rigours of capitalism.

The signing means that as of July 2, when the treaty takes effect, in many ways the four-decade division of Germany will have come to an end.

But the thorny issue of the military status of a united Germany remains to be solved, with the Soviet Union flatly rejecting Nato membership for a joined country.

By signing the treaty, Kohl said, the leaders of two freely elected German governments were declaring a wish to build a future together "as one people, one nation, in one free and democratic state."

While he said difficult moments lay ahead in the transition, problems will be tackled as they arise.

"After decades, a dream is becoming reality: the dream of the unity of Germany and Europe," Kohl declared. "What we are living through here is the birth of a free and united Germany."

Under the treaty, the strong West German currency called the mark will become East Germany's currency. All monetary affairs will be controlled by West Germany's central bank, the Bundesbank.

East Germany will be required to start selling off state-owned property under the treaty to help cover reconstruction costs.

De Maiziere said that not all "flowery dreams" of East Germans will be fulfilled with the treaty, "but no one will be worse off than before."

"Which other country gets such a good starting position as we with this treaty?" he said.

In a ceremony freighted with symbolism, West German Finance Minister Theodor Waigel and his East German counterpart, Walter Romberg, signed the treaty in the former office of Konrad Adenauer.

Adenauer guided West Germany's economic rebirth as its first chancellor following World War II and led the state firmly into the Western alliance. He governed from 1949 to 1963.

The so-called "state treaty" between East and West Germany is the crowning achievement to date of Kohl's efforts to achieve an expedited unification of the two Germanys.

The treaty came just two months after East Germany's first free elections, and little more than six months after the Berlin Wall was opened, symbolically ending the division of Germany.

Under the provisions of the document, East Germany will receive large-scale assistance from West Germany in exchange for scrapping its moribund, centralised economy for a free market system.

East Germany, overwhelmed by an influx of poor Romanian migrants, barred Romanians today from visiting without invitations.

Government spokeswoman Angela Merkel said the decision was reached at a meeting of conservative Prime Minister Lothar de Maiziere's coalition cabinet.

Bush meets with Kohl

WASHINGTON, May 18, (AP): President George Bush completing a series of pre-summit meetings with allied leaders, said yesterday a united Germany must exercise full control over its territory and not be singled out of special status.

Bush voiced strong opposition to a Soviet proposal that a reunified Germany be neutral, or a member of both Nato and the Warsaw Pact, after a meeting with West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl.

It was Bush's final meeting with Western leaders in advance of his May 30-June 3 summit with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev.

At a news conference after his meeting with Bush, Kohl stressed that attempts to block Nato membership for a united Germany would be an infringement on the country's sovereignty.

In recent weeks, Bush has met with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, French President Francois Mitterrand and Canadian President Brian Mulroney.

The issue of German reunification is expected to be high on the agenda at the Bush-Gorbachev talks.



Baker (left) looks to Shevardnadze (leaning right) as the two sit down to negotiate arms control in Moscow. May 17. (Reuter wirephoto)

Baker reports progress

Hinders reforms

Fear of change

MOSCOW, May 18, (AP): US Secretary of State James Baker reported progress today after talks with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, but said the superpowers still hadn't forged an agreement on reducing their arsenals of long-range nuclear weapons.

After meeting with Gorbachev, Baker took time out from the arms-control talks to meet with Lithuanian Prime Minister Kazimira Pruskiene, who was in Moscow trying to persuade the Soviet president to open negotiations on her republic's bid for independence. Baker then returned to the bargaining table with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze.

The US and Soviet negotiators are trying to reach an agreement on reducing the superpowers' arsenals of long-range missiles, bombers and submarines in time for Gorbachev's summit with US President George Bush in Washington from May 31-June 3.

"We made some progress," Baker said after his talks with Gorbachev. "We still have a number of issues that are still out there."

Asked if agreement on key issues would be ready for the summit, Baker replied, "We keep hoping we can accomplish that."

Earlier today in the Kremlin, Gorbachev said the Soviets were doing their best to stick together on an agreement. The Bush administration had accused the Soviets of backtracking on their earlier positions before Baker arrived in Moscow on Tuesday.

The Soviet leader said he did not know if an agreement would be ready in time for the Washington summit, but told reporters, "I think we are moving closer."

Mixed signals also came from the US side, where officials spoke both of continuing gaps and of hopes for an accord. Without a compromise on air and sea-launched cruise missiles and other disputed weapons, the summit will lack the dramatic centerpiece

We are still very hopeful, as we have been for some time, that a dialogue can begin," Baker said of the long-held US hope that the

Soviets would negotiate terms for independence with Lithuania.

Asked to respond to analysts who say he is having trouble keeping his head above water, Gorbachev shot back: "They should follow closely what is happening in the Soviet Union, and they should objectively reflect on what is happening in this country."

Bush and Gorbachev had anticipated.

By meeting with the Lithuanian prime minister, Baker gave at least symbolic US support to the Baltic republic's independence drive.

"We are still very hopeful, as we have been for some time, that a dialogue can begin," Baker said of the long-held US hope that the

Soviets would negotiate terms for independence with Lithuania.

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Stevens said after publishing his report:

But the leaks were restricted to a small number of individuals who had gravely abused their positions of trust, he said.

The inquiry was started last September after Protestant extremists fighting to keep Northern Ireland British said they used leaked security files to identify a Catholic adversary, whom they then shot dead at his home.

The scandal set off a big Anglo-Irish row, with Dublin calling for reforms in the Ulster Defence Regiment, drawn mainly from local recruits. It is predominantly Protestant and deeply mistrusted by

nationalists.

"Certain members of the Ulster Defence Regiment have been involved in collusion with loyalist paramilitaries," the report said.

It recommended tighter vetting and screening procedures for new recruits to the controversial regiment, especially those living in Protestant ghettos of Belfast.

Stevens said the security forces had produced extensive intelligence files over the 20 years of the Northern Ireland conflict but there had been a serious lack of control in distributing these documents.

No charges have been laid against members of the Northern Ireland police force, although files are being examined by the director of public prosecutions in relation to two officers.

The IRA claimed responsibility Wednesday night for a bomb blast outside an army recruiting office in Wembly in north London which killed an army sergeant and seriously injured another.

The bomb exploded in a military van. A civilian woman clerk employed by the army who was waiting to get into the van and another woman who lived nearby was walking past the scene when she was treated for shock.

Talks to resolve Baltics dispute

MOSCOW, May 18, (AP): President Mikhail Gorbachev said today the Kremlin was prepared to examine any possibility to resolve the dispute over Lithuanian independence — provided the Soviet constitutional process is observed.

The prime minister of the breakaway republic, Kazimira Pruskiene, met with Gorbachev yesterday and said afterward that significant progress was made toward a settlement. But neither side suggested that the dispute that followed the republic's March 11 declaration of independence had been settled.

Today Mrs Pruskiene met with US Secretary of State James Baker, who has said the Baltic impasse was casting a shadow over the summit between Gorbachev and US President George Bush scheduled for later this month.

Baker arrived at Spaso House, the home of US Ambassador Jack Matlock, an hour and 45 minutes late, indicating that his earlier meeting with Gorbachev had gone into overtime.

In a sign of continuing tension, Lithuanian radio reported that Soviet soldiers shot to death a Lithuanian teenager who was trying to enter a military unit on Tuesday. In a broadcast monitored by the BBC, the report said two passerby were wounded by automatic weapons fire. No other details were reported.

Military officials have complained of several rock-throwing or sniper attacks on Soviet soldiers in military installations. There had been no serious injuries reported in those incidents.

Moscow has used the military to make repeated shows of force in the breakaway republic.

Gorbachev, speaking to reporters before meeting with Baker this morning, said: "Through the constitutional process, we are ready to consider any possibility, any question."

Before her meeting with Baker, Mrs Pruskiene visited the Moscow embassies of countries she recently toured, including Scandinavia, Britain, and the United States.

She delivered letters expressing gratitude for the support she received, an official at the Lithuanian mission in Moscow said.

Mrs Pruskiene, speaking with reporters at the Lithuanian mission in Moscow after her meeting with Gorbachev yesterday, said the republic's Parliament will be called into session on Saturday to formalise the offer to suspend laws passed to implement the republic's declaration of independence.

The compromise proposal "does not mean we are returning to the situation of March 10," Mrs Pruskiene told reporters, emphasising Lithuania's determination not to back away from eventual independence.

Mrs Pruskiene was called to the Kremlin late yesterday for a one-hour and 40-minute meeting with Gorbachev and Soviet Premier Nikolai Ryzhkov.

"We moved forward very significantly," she told reporters later. She also quoted Gorbachev as noting progress.

Gorbachev had not met with any representatives of Lithuania in the more than two months since the republic declared independence. Instead, he applied economic pressure, including a virtual blockade of fuel, other raw materials and manufactured goods.

Special Soviet troops are being sent to the restive Baltic republics of Estonia and Latvia to help to keep order after riots in their capitals, Tass said today.



Daniel Guriner works to remove the spray paint from the tombstone of his 5-year-old brother's grave in the cemetery of the village of Villaret. May 17. (Reuter wirephoto)

More seek to settle in Israel

French Jews

PARIS, May 18. (Agencies): Requests by French Jews to emigrate to Israel have increased dramatically since vandals desecrated a Jewish cemetery last week and mutilated a recently buried corpse, the Jewish agency said yesterday.

The main centre-right opposition party had demanded the abandonment of this proposal as a condition for participation in a multi-party conference on immigration — which along with racism has become the country's most volatile social issue.

Le Pen's National Front favours deportation of immigrants, and the centre-right parties say the flow of immigration should be sharply restricted.

In a poll of 803 French people, conducted on Monday and Tuesday by the CSA polling firm, 35 per cent of the respondents said they thought it was acceptable that people be free to express anti-Semitic views.

Israeli police said yesterday they had arrested a mentally deranged Jew on suspicion of desecrating graves in the central town of Lod, the latest in a wave of attacks on Jewish cemeteries in Europe and Israel.

The 24-year-old man, was believed to have smashed flowerpots on graves in a military and a civilian cemetery, Israel radio said. Police described him as insane.

Vandals spray-painted swastikas and Jewish stars of David on tombstones in Villaret, Switzerland's cemetery, police said.

Studies conducted by United Nations show that 20-22 percent of France's 650,000 Jews think they could settle in Israel. About 10,000 French Jews have made their "aliyah" (return) in the past five years.

In a related development, the

Rise in deaths Effects of radiation

WASHINGTON, May 18. (AP): Millions more Americans may die from the effects of radiation releases from nuclear plants and bomb tests than acknowledged by the government, the authors of a new book on the health effects of radiation said on Wednesday.

A spokesman for the commercial nuclear industry called the claim "hysterical fear-mongering."

Jean M. Goldman and Jay M. Gould, authors of "deadly deceit," said their analysis of government mortality and radiation statistics showed death rates for infants and the elderly rose significantly in the aftermath of accidental radiation releases at nuclear plants in South Carolina, Connecticut and Pennsylvania in the 1970s.

Goldman, a researcher and author, and Gould, a statistician, also claim that radioactive fallout from the explosion of the Chernobyl nuclear power plant in the Soviet Union in April 1986 accelerated the deaths of about 40,000 Americans during the summer of 1986.

No charges have been laid against members of the Northern Ireland police force, although files are being examined by the director of public prosecutions in relation to two officers.

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Action Line

HOW POWERFUL is the word of a Muslim husband? Can he overrule professionals when it comes to medical treatment of his wife? Doctors have examined the wife and diagnosed her as being mentally ill, recommending constant surveillance and drug therapy. However, the husband refuses to accept that she is ill and prevents her from receiving medical treatment.

Doesn't each and everyone of us have the legal right for a healthy life? Who has the authority to help the wife particularly since all relatives are abroad? The wife herself is unable to seek outside help due to her condition.

A concerned friend

ACTUALLY, any one can intervene in such a situation and seek police assistance to get the lady to a hospital for treatment. If you go to the police and explain the case, they will summon the husband and talk to him about his wife and do the needful regarding medical treatment.

The husband is committing an offence by not allowing his wife access to medical treatment. Every individual is entitled to medical treatment. I suggest you seek police assistance.

I CAME to Kuwait in 1973 under my husband's sponsorship. If I get a job now, can I transfer my residence permit to No. 18? J. Fernandes

THERE is no legal problem in transferring the visa to No. 18, provided you have a job and have been sponsored. You can go ahead and find a job. In case the visa is not transferred from No. 22 to 18, you can always re-enter on the fresh work permit.

CAN YOU help us? Our Sri Lankan maid went on leave and did not return. She has one year residence. We have waited for her to come back, but she hasn't. She also did not reply to our letter.

What shall we do to cancel her visa to get another maid? My husband went to the passport twice but they told us her visa cannot be cancelled without her passport.

We have a strong feeling that she may come back to work for another family for "more money". How do we find out whether she has returned or not? We have her photograph, Civil ID and passport copies.

A. Varghese

APPROACH the police station in your area and file a case of "abandoning". Tell the police that she went on vacation and did not rejoin duty and you suspect she has returned and will inform her address as soon as you know anything about it.

The police will give a certificate, which should be submitted to the Public Authority for Civil Information, so that they know about the case.

If she has not returned, then she won't be allowed to re-enter after six months have elapsed.

If you know the exact date she left Kuwait, you can inform the immigration authorities that she has left the country, so that if she tries to re-enter they can contact you.

I WOULD like to learn Arabic language. I am living in Mangaf. I would like to know if there is any good institute in Falahiyah or Mangaf. If you could give me the address, I will be thankful to you.

Vijay Mehta

THANK YOU for sending a self-addressed envelope. We regret to inform you that we do not give individual replies. The purpose of this column is to reach as many readers as possible.

We inquired on your behalf and found that the Fahheel Education Institute, Mecca St., near Sadaf Pharmacy, might be of help to you. It holds three-month courses (evening classes, twice a week) for beginners. Its telephone number is 3917370. There are several private institutes teaching Arabic language to foreigners in Kuwait City and Salma; their addresses can be found in the Kuwait Yellow Pages.

Kuwait University also holds Arabic language classes for foreigners. Registration is held twice a year; the next will be in September. The classes are held in the evenings in KU campus in Khaldiya.

I WANT to know what is "cross country"? Does anyone have a right to "cross country"? If yes, what are the necessary requirements? Please explain "cross country".

Nabe

WE don't really know what you mean by "cross country". To our knowledge there is no such thing as "cross country", except in sport. However, if you referring to the practice of leaving the country to re-enter on a fresh visa, it is a different matter altogether.

Some expatriates who are issued with fresh visas are required to cancel their visa and re-enter Kuwait on the new document. For this, they are required to return to their country of origin to complete the formalities, like endorsements etc. at the Kuwaiti consulate.

A work visa is issued by the employer, who applies to the Ministry of Social Affairs for the documents.

I HOPE you'll be able to help me. I would like to know if the process of liposuction is done in Kuwait. If so, where and what is the minimum cost?

What is the minimum cost of having plastic surgery of the nose and where can it be done?

It is possible to take out one tooth and replace it on level with other teeth in Kuwait.

I would be much obliged if you could also tell me if any of these are done free of charge anywhere and where I can get further information about my queries.

A. Woods

PLASTIC surgery, nose jobs, liposuction etc., is done free of charge in Kuwait's major hospitals like Mubarak Al Kabir and Ibn Sina. Free surgery is done on patients holding valid residence permits; if a patient is in a private room, its rentals must be paid. Doctors said it is essential to see the patient before deciding whether such surgery was necessary. Please contact the plastic surgeons in these hospitals for further assistance. It is advisable to go in person to meet them. As there are several doctors, it is not possible for us to list their names but the reception desk at these hospitals would be able to guide you.

Plastic surgery is also done at such private hospitals like Hadi Clinic. Again, the doctor insists on seeing the patient before deciding on surgery and cost. We tried to get the minimum cost they refused to commit themselves saying the expense depends on the merits of individual cases. As such surgery is not inexpensive, we expect the cost to exceed KD 1,000.

Dental treatment and teeth implants are done at various private clinics and private hospitals like Mowasah in Salma. Several private dental clinics are located in Ras Salma, Kuwait City, Hawalli and other suburbs; addresses can be obtained from the Kuwait Yellow Pages.

Free dental treatment can be done at the Kuwait Dental Centre, behind Amiri Hospital, Sharq; and Public Health Ministry runs dental clinics affiliated to health centres in nearly all suburbs.

UNTIL a few years ago, the US embassy in Kuwait issued five-year multiple entry visas to Indian nationals. Now the maximum period given to Indians visiting the US is one year multiple entry visa. I understand that other nationalities like Palestinians and Pakistanis are still given five years multiple entry.

Can you please advise through your column whether there is any specific reason for not granting Indians five-year multiple entry visa as before?

For a frequent visitor to the US, a five-year multiple entry visa would be helpful.

MM

ALL embassies reserve the right to judge the duration of any visa issued by them. It is the prerogative of most immigration officers to issue visas based on the merits of each individual case. There is no hard and fast rule on the duration of a multiple entry visa, which is issued for between one and five years.

US embassy consular officials, though contacted several times, were unavailable for comment.

Educators call to fortify younger generation

'Unify thought on Islamic basis'

KUWAIT, May 18, (Kuna): A five-day education conference wound up sessions here with a call for more attention on school curriculums, Islamic and Arabic courses to "fortify young generations" against alien thought and enable them to face contem-

porary challenges.

The 20th education conference, sponsored by Kuwaiti Teachers Association under the theme "Contemporary Challenges in the Arab World and School Curriculums" also urged for further concentration on

promotional studies of Arabic language and Islamic history as means "to create an effective and capable Arab-Muslim personality."

The gathering recommended individualist and collective efforts along with private and

governmental endeavours "to unify the thought of young generations all over the Arab world on Islamic basis."

The conference appealed for re-writing of the Arab and Islamic nations' history "to give prominence to the bright

aspects", and said Islamic education as well as the Arabic language should be made compulsory courses at all school levels.

Enrollment in the teaching profession should also receive more attention and well-prepared programmes should be

formulated to qualify teachers who are required to champion keenness and understanding to their noble message.

The conference called for establishment of an Arab bureau to revise and oversee unification



Chalets visit

The director-general of the Kuwait Municipality Sheikh Sabah Jaber Al Ali Al Sabah paid a visit to the Mina Abdullah Chalets recently where he met with a group of residents and discussed their problems.

He continued his tour the next day and met again with another group of residents, after which he made an inspection tour of the municipality centre in Zoor and Nuwaiseeb areas. Picture shows Sheikh Sabah with staff at the Zoor Municipal centre.

Agriculture conference opens today

Study cases to be reviewed

KUWAIT-BASED Arab Institution for Planning (AIP) organises a five-day conference here today to discuss agricultural policies in the Arab world in a bid to promote agricultural activities.

A press release circulated by AIP yesterday said that a number of Arab experts will take part in the meeting to review prepared study cases dealing with a number of Arab countries suffering from serious agricultural problems.

They will also prepare a list of recommendations to help Arab countries avoid such problems which resulted from not applying

appropriate policies drawn out by authoritative institutions, the release said.

It added that the experts will discuss the role of the country in regulating international and national agriculture marketing and the role of lending institution in financing agricultural ventures.

Meanwhile board chairman and director general of Public Authority of Agriculture Affairs and Fisheries Resources Sheikh Ibrahim Duaij Al Sabah returned home from Tabuk, Saudi Arabia, after attending the fifth session of the GCC Agricultural and Irrigation Co-operation

Committee.

Sheikh Ibrahim commended the Saudi government's agricultural policy and said he and the accompanying delegation got acquainted with Tabuk's agricultural experience where big farms of fruits, vegetables, wheat and flowers were cultivated by companies.

In a statement to Kuna, Sheikh Ibrahim added that the Saudi government has been rendering assistance and facilities to farmers in all agricultural and livestock breeding sectors, thus achieved substantive progress in the field.

He noted that Saudi incentives

to farmers include extending loans which in some cases cover about 80 percent of farm costs.

At the two-day session, the ministers reviewed a number of issues pertaining to agricultural policy in the GCC member states.

At a dinner party held in their honour by Prince Fahd, Ibn Sultan Ibn Abdul Aziz, governor of Tabuk province, Prince Fahd said the Saudi government has been extending every support to farmers in the kingdom.

"We have in Tabuk region one of the most successful fruit projects in the Middle East," he said.

Market stall regulations

Shuaiba security projects planned

THE acting director-general of the Shuaiba General Authority has said that the area will be the site for a number of construction and security projects, which are scheduled to be executed in two stages.

He said that the projects set for Stage I have been completed and that the security projects to be executed in stage II involve protection work to safeguard the seafront at the Shuaiba Industrial Area, Mina Al Ahmadi and Mina Abdulkhal.

He said the projects also involve land protection work surrounding the Shuaiba Industrial Area.

He said the security projects will be executed directly by the authority, under authorisation by the cabinet's Security Committee. He pointed out that work on these projects started three years ago and the work on the seafront projects will begin within the next six months. He added that after a study is made on the land area compromised for security at Shuaiba, and Mina Abdulkhal.

The minister of state for municipal affairs meanwhile has issued a decision amending a previous decision No. 54/90 regarding the operation system at the local central vegetables market in Shuaiba.

Under the new decision, use of the stalls at the market is regulated as follows:

Operators at the market must be Kuwaitis, whether individuals or companies, and must possess a licence from the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

All importers must have a file with the market

administration containing the licences and other documents required by the administration.

Irregular operators at the market will have to arrange for using a vacant selling stall in co-operation with the administration.

Dealer-operator will have the right to use a stall based on the type of his merchandise and in line with the approved regulations, and will not be able to use two stalls for the same merchandise.

Public auction for advertising seasonal merchandise will not be held except with the prior approval of the relevant authorities.

Each dealer must submit a statement listing the names of workers and salesmen before the allocated selling stall is handed over.

No merchandise will be displayed or sold without the related manifesto.

Each dealer will be responsible for the cleaning of his stall and will have to hand the stall back clean upon the expiry of his term in operation.

Penalties endorsed by the decision for violations of the above-mentioned constraints include the following:

1. The dealer will be issued a notice for the first instance of violation.

2. On the second instance, the dealer will have his licence suspended for a period not over a month and not below two weeks.

3. For the same violation, the dealer will be prevented from operation for a period of six months.

490 engineering students at KU

THE head of electrical and computer engineering department at the faculty of engineering and petroleum Dr Muslafa Al Jibali said that more than 490 students are studying electrical or computer engineering at Kuwait University. He added that department admitted 140 newcomers in the academic year 1983/84 against 110 graduates. He added that about 50 engineers are studying in the masters programme of electrical engineering at the faculty.

He added that department is doing its best to develop its labs beside building new labs. "We also try to attract visiting professors and encourage the research co-operation between the department and similar departments in foreign universities," Al Jibali said. The department offers training courses for engineers in government and private sectors. The department has also succeeded in sending a number of Kuwaiti engineers to pursue their higher studies in famous universities to get their masters and doctorate degrees before returning to teach at the faculty.

Bahrain accedes to slave convention

UNITED NATIONS, May 18, (Kuna): Bahrain has acceded to the convention on the abolition of slavery, the slave trade and institutions and practices similar to slavery, the UN announced in a press release distributed here yesterday.

The documents of accession, received by the UN legal office on March 27, were actually to the supplementary convention on the abolition of slavery, concluded in Geneva on September 7, 1956 and came into force on April 30, 1957.

municipality each year 200,000 tons with an overall cost of KD2,700,000 which translates to KD 3 per ton.

The studies also indicate that each 400 kilogrammes of wastes require 1 cubic metre of burial and with the steady increase in the size of wastes discarded, the area needed for burial of these wastes in the coming years is projected at 35 square kilometre, which equals the existing total area of the Kuwait Airport.

Meanwhile, studies continue to find solutions and ways to effectively dispose of these wastes, given the small area of the country and urban growth rates.

Waste recycling plant

KUWAIT, May 18, (Kuna): Under the direction of His Highness the Amir and His Highness the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, an organic wastes factory will be constructed near Jaisim city, a Kuwaiti daily said yesterday.

The daily reported that the factory will utilise the collection of organic wastes for the production of fertilisers to be used in the afforestation plans of the government.

The factory will start production after 22 months to take advantage of 1,400 tonnes of these wastes that are disposed daily, and will cost around KD 10 million.

Sharhan returns

KUWAIT, May 18, (Kuna): Communications Minister Abdulaziz Al Sharhan accompanied by Undersecretary Abdul Aziz Al Ayoub returned home from Algiers after taking part in the third session of the General Assembly of the Arab Authority for Space Communications (Arabsat).

Sharhan said in a statement to Kuna that the Arabsat General Assembly had resolved to entrust the Great Soor Company with launching the third Arab satellite, in conformity with a recommendation submitted by an eight-member Arab committee.

Waste burial costs municipality KD 3 per ton

BY Jamal Ameen

CIVILISED communities show increasing concern about the disposal of household wastes, due to the close relation of this issue with the environment and public health.

Some communities have even gone so far as to utilise these wastes after them to address the twin issues of economics and environment. Kuwait Municipality has been attentively following up the technologies employed in utilising municipal wastes and studies have been conducted to determine the potentials of this project in the country — particularly solid wastes.

Recent studies have shown that the currently used methods to

Cypriot president arrives here today

Economic talks

NICOSIA, May 18. (AP): Cyprus President Georges Vassiliou will spend Saturday and Sunday in Kuwait and travel to Qatar on Monday for talks on the Cyprus problem and economic relations, the official news agency announced yesterday.

Vassiliou will be accompanied by Foreign Minister George Iacovou, Finance Minister George Syriis and Pavlos Savvides, Minister of Communications and Works, Cyprus News Agency said.

Kuwait has provided economic assistance to Cyprus in the past for such major

projects as the island's highway system. He is also to meet with Sheikh Khalifa Bin Hamad Al Thani and other officials in Qatar.

Cyprus has been divided into Greek and Turkish sectors since a 1974 invasion by

the Turkish army in the wake of a coup by supporters of union with Greece.

Greek Cypriot officials have expressed concern lately that Arab support has weakened slightly for their point of view on uniting the island in a federal system.



Members of the audience listen attentively to the guests of honour.



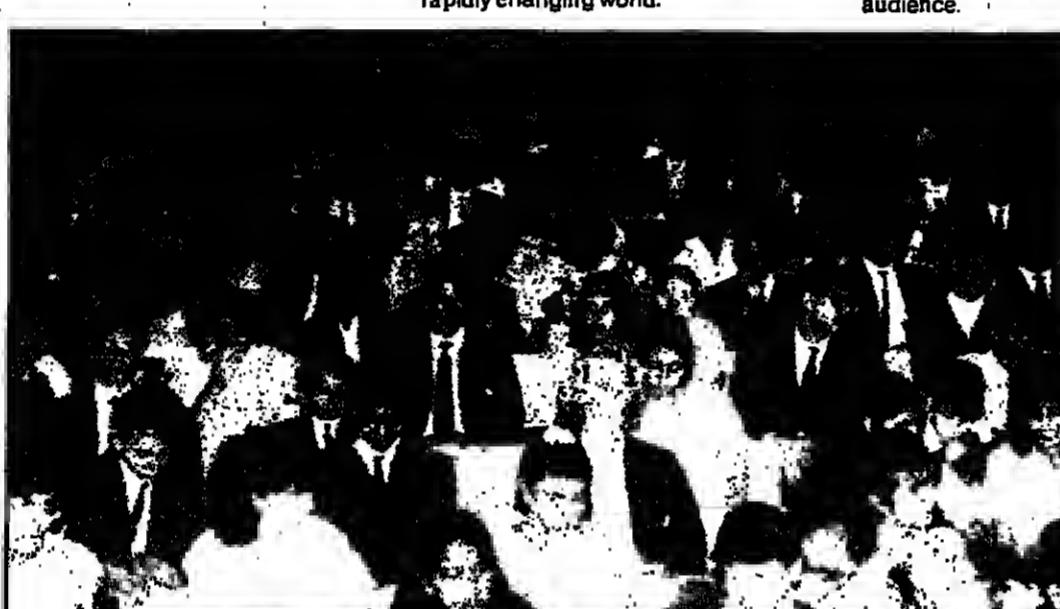
Abdul Aziz Hussain addresses students on education for a rapidly changing world.



KES chairman Mohammed Jassim Al Saddah addressing the audience.



School principal R.E. Muhammed addressing the school.



Senior headmistress Janet Carew giving the annual report.

Attentive students listening to the addresses.

KES holds Speech Day for seniors

High passing rates

THE Kuwait English School recently held its senior department Speech Day and prize-giving ceremony in the Shrook Ballroom of the Regency Palace Hotel. A distinguished company of dignitaries, parents, staff and students gathered beneath blinding chandeliers and video arc-lamps.

The guest speaker was Abdul Aziz Hussain, advisor to His Highness the Amir, who took as his theme "education in a Changing World." Citing recent events in Eastern Europe as instances of dramatic changes, seen by some as a reaction to world crises, he laid upon specialists in education the burden of addressing and finding solutions to today's grave problems. Their answers had to relate to the young in their care, if the latter were to fulfill their dreams and accept the high values expected of them. Through education a creative way of implementing change could be found, in which youth

shared fully; through education each individual had to be prepared to face the modern world of technology.

Hussain praised the school's "distinguished participation" in the educational process which was strengthening Kuwait. He supported the philosophy of a school which sought the education of the whole person. The school's enviable reputation had been enhanced by its efforts as a centre of enlightenment and culture, through conferences and seminars in the quest of excellence. He concluded by congratulating students and staff and wishing all continuing success.

Earlier in the evening, the school chairman, Mohammed Jassim Al Saddah, reviewed the past and on-going programmes of the department, whilst Janet Carew — headteacher — spoke in some detail of the year's highlights — academic, cultural and sporting. Pass rates for GCSE

had been 98 per cent; for GCE 'O' level 96 per cent and for FCE 'A' level 81 per cent. One former pupil was currently reading mathematics at Cambridge. Thanks to the school chairman, educational facilities had been enhanced. The house system fostered healthy competition, pastoral care and social development. To formalise contact with former pupils — a source of pride and pleasure — there had been set up, through the initiative of Douglas Williams, a body named Kepa — Kuwait English Ex-Pupils Association. Mrs. Carew urged this year's leavers to become members. She characterised KES students as the best any headteacher could wish for — a tribute to parents, staff and students themselves.

In her address, the school principal mused how rapidly the prize-giving ceremony passed and how dearly awards were earned though long, dedicated study. She expressed thanks to

the school chairman, to his daughter, Madame Wissal — since September a member of the management team, and to the staff. International schools — KES one among many — she saw as agencies for developing greater harmony among people, uniting minds and spirits in tomorrow's world. Her hope was that the generation now in school would keep alive the dream of making the world a better place; would themselves pass on to others the enrichment they had received through education.

Reflecting upon his eight years at KES, head boy Mabayyil Azraksh, spoke appreciatively of his debt to the school, where he had found his abilities, both physical and mental, were stretched further than he had expected. He had learnt how to socialise with, and to understand, people of different cultures. To his parents, he paid moving tribute for their guidance. "For my part," he added, "I think they made the

right decision in sending me to Kuwait English School." He concluded by saying, "... However long my life may be — and I hope, Insha' Allah, it will be a long one — the eight years I spent at KES will always be a significant part of it, a source of special memories."

With head girl, Rondine Hills, Mabayyil recited "Geography Lesson," a poem by Zulfikar Ghose, voicing thoughts upon human life seen from changing perspectives.

Proceedings had begun on a solemn note with readings from the Holy Quran, given by Ibrahim Abu El Fadi and Muhammad Mukhtar Ali, and included fine performances by the Arabic choir, trained by Madame Feryal, the school choir — both of which were accompanied by Oliver Lister, and the school band which was under the baton of Paul Leggatt and Keith Price. A lavish supper brought to a close a delightful evening.

Language problems

DR ADNAN Al Shatti of the psychology department of Kuwait University has said that ministries of Education, Planning and Social Affairs and Labour undertook three studies in 1983 and 1985 on the effects of maids on the language of children they take care of. But he added that none of these studies was scientific or gave correct results.

These studies showed that there are no negative effects on the language of children, which was chosen as the week's slogan, the participants, including representatives of a number of Arab countries, advocated boosting role of the individual in seeking government efforts.

Dr Shatti who was speaking at a lecture organised by the Faculty of Arts said he has been making a study on the same subject since 1987. He added that his study proved that previous studies were untrue and not undertaken on a scientific base because of false information provided by families that were involved in these studies. He added that he is making his study on about 100 children at kindergartens. Half of them are being taken care of by their mothers and the other half are being taken care of by maids. These children are about 4 years old which is the critical stage of gaining and learning language. After this age the

effect on children language becomes clear.

"We asked children themselves some questions showing who take care of them. We also sent questionnaires to their parents to make sure of this information.

"Dr Shatti said although the study is still being made, the results of tests made on these children indicated some difference in language of children taken care of by maids and children looked after by their mothers especially in the number of gained and spoken words.

"We presented 6 pictures to children and asked them to compare them. The children looked after by maids used an average of 160 words to comment on these pictures while children taken care of by their mothers used an average of 210 words to comment on same pictures, Dr Shatti said." He added that other tests included the number of repeated words and the use of non-Arabic words in speaking.

Dr Shatti pointed out that it is beneficial for children when their maids teach them English but this should be limited for a few hours daily and only under control of their parents. He added that results of his study are expected to appear at the end of this year.

Study on effect of maids under way

THE director of Omariya Zoo at the Public Authority for Agriculture and Fish Resources Musa Al Khashti has said that the zoo has bought a couple of hippopotami recently. This kind of animal that lives in Africa is being brought to Kuwait and Gulf states for the first time. He added that a number of different animals were also brought to the zoo to be shown to visitors. He added that these new animals are the local wolf, European wolves, black gazelle, porcupine, bears, gray squirrel, American lions and wild cats.

Khashti pointed out that there are 56 kinds of mammals forming a total of 228 animals, 91 kinds of birds forming a total of 492 birds and nine kinds of reptiles forming 39 reptile animals in the Omariya zoo.

The zoo is a place that allows visitors to see all world creatures in a limited place.

Research

The zoo has become an entertainment place for children. He added that administration of the zoo is co-operating with faculty of medicine and Kuwait Foundation for Advancement of Science in researching diabetes on some kinds of pigs at the zoo.

Visiting hours at the zoo are between 2 pm and half an hour before sunset except on Fridays, Thursday and official holidays which are from 9 am to half an hour before sunset, he said.

Privatisation policies should be evaluated: economist

Contribution to GNP retreats

TRANSFERRING the present functions of several public sector undertakings to the sole responsibility of the private sector should be carefully evaluated on a broad-based basis, a Kuwaiti academic economist said.

DR Modib Al Humoud, a professor at the faculty of commerce and economy of Kuwait University in a research paper undertaken on Kuwait's experiment on privatisation of the public sector expressed doubts on the capability of this sector to shoulder these responsibilities independently.

The official recommended developing an appropriate formula which will ensure that the private sector is professionally in tune with the ramifications involved in efficiently managing utilities of the public sector.

Research

In her research submitted at a seminar held recently in Cairo on this issue in the Arab countries, she explained in Cairo on this issue in the Arab countries, she explained that the de-nationalisation process in Arab countries had been implemented through three avenues: the first dealt with the privatisation of the public sector either partially or totally, the second involved reducing the monopolistic role of the public sector by introducing the simultaneous involvement of the private sector and the third focused on allowing the private sector to manage some of the activities previously being looked after exclusively by the public sector.

She commented that the public sector in Kuwait intends to opt to practice the second and third avenues as its dependence on the private sector had witnessed significant increase in recent years. However, she said that the private sector which remains as a main pillar of the Kuwaiti economy had seen its influence erode

in the wake of the economic boom that was evidenced by the country during the oil era. Since then, the role of the private sector had closely been connected with governmental expenditures and accordingly had been transferred from an initiating sector to one receiving patronage.

Humoud disclosed that most private sector units mainly comprise individual enterprises and limited liability firms which constitute about 90 per cent of the private sector. Thus, taking the large level of commitment, she said that we should carefully weigh the various issues of the de-nationalisation process of the public sector.

Workforce

Speaking of the workforce in the private sector, Humoud said that this sector mainly employs expatriate workforce, particularly during the past few years due to the rationalisation of expenditure adopted by the state.

The strength of the expatriate workforce is estimated to be about 94.7 per cent of the manpower in the private sector with about 53 per cent foreigners, while Arabs are 41 per cent, according to statistics undertaken in 1985, compared to 89.9 per cent in 1980.

Speaking of the contributions of the private sector to the Gross National Product (GNP), Humoud said that they had significantly retreated during recent years — from 34.5 per cent in 1982 to about 23.7 per cent in 1985.

Meanwhile, the official said that Kuwait extends the necessary subsidy to different industrial, agricultural and commercial activities undertaken by the private sector. These subsidies are represented in various forms, including concessional industrial loans and providing lands at symbolic prices, including

exemption from customs duties on equipments imported for industrial purposes in addition to subsidies on gas and electricity.

Subsidies

Specifically, she said that governmental subsidy to the agricultural sector amounted to about KD12.477 million during the period 1983-1987, with 49 per cent being allocated to the support of vegetables agricultural projects, the balance being devoted to the building of greenhouses and wells. Further, she added that governmental productive projects receive a lot of subsidy in view of their high capital costs and the private sector right from the early stages had refrained from being involved in such projects.

In relation to privatisation of these projects, she commented that government subsidy will not be discontinued and in the context the issue of privatisation should be carefully considered. Commenting on a statement that the privatisation process is being developed to enhance the productivity of the public sector, she said that relevant statistics had confirmed that the private sector in Kuwait is not bereft of its particular form of administrative problems.

She disclosed that about 77.5 per cent of the private sector corporations do not abide by either annual or semi-annual commissioning schemes and that 44 per cent of these corporations give no incentives to their workers. The balance had no specific criterias to evaluate work performance.

Concluding, Humoud said that the privatisation process does not constitute the sole solution to the problems of the public sector, but solutions rest in adopting an ambitious programme for reforming public enterprises and other governmental units.

Candidates

feast voters

(Continued from Page 1)

government will fill the other 25 seats by appointment.

HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah told Kuwait's supreme planning council this week that "despite the storms which sometimes make waves, we shall intensify our work and we shall labour night and day ... to ensure that the vessel of Kuwait reaches the shore safely."

Among bedouin tribes living on the fringes of urban area, a sort of primary poll has already begun. Tribes do not want to split their voting power in the actual poll, so losers of the preliminary polls will withdraw.

The Interior Ministry today allocated 125 premises for electoral committees distributed among 25 constituencies.

The committees were distributed in a way whereby every constituency would get one main electoral committee and several sub-committees.

The Education Ministry's school buildings will house these committees.

Of the constituencies, Ahmad Al 21st is the largest where it comprised one original electoral committee and eight sub-committees compared to an average of three to seven main and branch committees in other constituencies.

A. Habib from Bahrain spoke about the load management scheme in Bahrain, past experience and future prospects. He said that the poor annual load factor is a common problem in many large power systems. This is mainly attributed to minute variation in load demand with rapid increase during certain periods of the day.

He added that the experience with the pilot load management programme proved the feasibility of introducing such techniques. Future schemes should achieve at least 10 per cent of system load giving a cyclic reduction load of 2.5 per cent. The cyclic off period could be evaluated by understanding the nature and extent of temperature changes in the premises of consumers.

He concluded that load management schemes constitute an important change in consumers daily habits and should be introduced on a voluntary basis. To make them attractive for consumers tariff incentives should be provided, he said.

Yemenis in UAE celebrate merger

ABU DHABI, May 18. (Reuter): Thousands of Yemenis living in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) danced today to celebrate the imminent merger of North and South Yemen.

People from both states embraced and shouted "Long live Yemen" as loudspeakers blared the national anthem of the new country. Some sported traditional weapons.

The celebrations will continue until unification is proclaimed later this month. North Yemeni Ambassador Mohammed Hetem Al Khawi told Reuters during the festivities near his embassy in Abu Dhabi.

Some South Yemenis said the end of socialist rule in their country made them even happier than the merger.

"The most important thing is that people no longer live in fear.

Shortages of consumer goods are ending," one said.

South Yemen, announcing liberalisation plans after years of authoritarian rule, and its conservative northern neighbour decided last November to unite.

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EDITORIALS

ARAB TIMES**Thought for today**

DEMOCRACY is the worst form of government, except all those other forms that have been tried from time to time — Sir Winston Churchill — English statesman.

Arrival daily**Migrants swarm East Germany**

EAST BERLIN, (Reuter): Hundreds of poor Romanians squat in an East Berlin train station and more arrive daily, posing East Germany with a refugee problem it never knew before Eastern Europe's borders were opened.

Anxious to avert racial incidents, officials have taken many of the Romanians from the station to lodgings in school gymnasiums and a nearby army base. But the influx is rising, space is running out and authorities have yet to find a solution.

Romanians can enter East Germany without visas. Expulsion after the 30-day limit on stays is not option in East Germany's new liberal democracy, officials say, and Romania will not revert to the curbs on foreign travel that existed under executed dictator Nicolae Ceausescu.

Problems

"We had no inkling of such problems before Eastern Europe opened borders and chose democracy. But now we must bow to the needs of humanity," said Col Herbert Phillip, commander of the army base command with 1,100 Romanians.

East Germany has about 87,000 foreign contract workers, most of them Vietnamese, employed in industry. But it has never experienced a spontaneous influx of foreigners until now.

Some 3,000 migrants — 80 per cent of them gypsies with a sprinkling of ethnic Turks and Bulgarians — have trooped off trains arriving at East Berlin's Lichtenberg station from southern Europe since the beginning of April.

Hundreds are coming daily and no end is in sight.

Most come to improve their standard of living in Eastern Europe's strongest economy, some apparently lured by East Germany's impending unification with rich West Germany.

Dragging battered luggage containing their worldly possessions, the dishevilled migrants settle down on station benches where they are fed by Red Cross workers. Some doze on Red Cross blankets in corners.

Grimy, saucer-eyed children beg local travellers for handouts while mothers openly breast-feed babies. Some adults leave the station to sell trinkets at local flea markets.

Every evening, Romanian interpreters employed by East Berlin's municipal government help officials persuade most migrants to move to temporary quarters.

The army base has filled up and officials are now hurriedly requisitioning school gymnasiums.

Saviour

But what next? Communist rule left East Germany with a total lack of charity groups and social workers experienced in caring for needy foreigners. Officials are pleading for West German money and expertise to plug the gap.

Whether this comes before or after German unification is unclear. But Bonn is regarded as the saviour. Its wealth and social services have helped integrate millions of foreigners.

East German officials lend urgency to their appeals by citing xenophobia kindled by the influx.

There have been repeated reports of violence between locals and Romanian migrants recently.

"We need so much help. We live isolated for so many years where we could neither travel nor welcome large numbers of visitors, so we're totally unprepared for the world coming to our doorstep now," said Anetta Kahane, in charge of foreign affairs for the East Berlin city government.

Some of the Romanians say they have come as "tourists" while others want medical care for ailments ranging from tuberculosis and syphilis to worms and lice.

Many Romanians want to reach West Germany but lack the necessary visas. However, that barrier could well fall with unification.

Asked why they left home, most cite economic misery or — especially in the gypsies' case — ethnic persecution.

At the National People's Army (NVA) barracks on the southeastern outskirts of the city, the migrants have been put up free of charge in dormitories vacated by soldiers discharged under post-communist controls.

On a recent visit in late afternoon, Romanians were sleeping or taking in their rooms or idling in hallways. An old woman with stamps for legs rested in a corner.

No job notices or anything else tailored to give the Romanians a sense of purpose in East Germany were to be seen.

"There's hardly any point. These people have no education, no skills, no foreign language," said Stefan Petrescu, an ethnic Romanian teacher who has dealt with the migrants.

"They're just on a crazy adventure — they have all these new freedoms but they don't know how to use them."

With unemployment rocketing as East Germany shifts to a market economy in a prelude to union with West Germany, the Romanians have been landing in a social tinder box.

Authorities fear the xenophobia vented at foreign workers as well as travelling Polish black marketeers in recent months will now spread to the largely helpless Romanians.

But officials who must handle the migrants are struggling with a vacuum of legal authority amid unity negotiations with Bonn that will phase East Germany out of existence.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1536 — Anne Boleyn, second wife of England's King Henry VIII, is beheaded.

1554 — France's King Henry II invades the Netherlands.

1585 — English shipping in Spanish ports is confiscated, which serves as declaration of war on England.

1635 — France declares war on Spain.

1649 — England is declared a Commonwealth.

1792 — Russia invades Poland.

1802 — Napoleon Bonaparte's Order of Legion of Honour is created in France.

1897 — Armistice is signed in Greece-Turkey war.

1900 — Britain annexes Tonga Islands in South Pacific.

1930 — White women are enfranchised in South Africa.

1943 — Britain's prime minister Winston Churchill tells US Congress that America has Britain's full support in war against Japan.

1945 — More than 40 US Superfortress bombers attack Tokyo, Japan, in World War II.

1971 — Canada's prime minister Pierre Trudeau and Soviet premier Alexei Kosygin sign agreement in Moscow to establish regular high-level contacts between the two nations.

1973 — Soviet Union and West Germany sign 10-year agreement calling for economic, industrial and technical cooperation.

1981 — Five British soldiers are killed in ambush by Irish Republican Army men in Newry, Northern Ireland.

1983 — UN Security Council unanimously endorses four-nation Central American peace initiative as it expresses deep concern about danger of war between Nicaragua and Honduras.

1984 — Finance ministers of the ten leading non-communist industrialized nations and Switzerland call for improvements in the international currency exchange system and urge more multilateral "surveillance" of national economic policies.

1985 — Lawrence of Arabia is honoured in Moreton, England, on the 50th anniversary of his death.

1989 — Deposed Philippine president Ferdinand Marcos is listed in critical condition in Hawaii after kidney, cardiac and pulmonary failure.

Not all are for one-party state**Mugabe gets few opponents**

HARARE, (Reuter): Robert Mugabe's dream of turning Zimbabwe's multi-party democracy into a one-party state is getting the cold shoulder from some members of his own Zanu-PF Party.

Few ministers are stepping forward as open opponents of a transition to a one-party state, which became a key theme in elections in March.

But no-one from Mugabe's cabinet, which normally enthusiastically seconds its leader's proposals, has come out as a supporter either.

The president has said a multi-party system is wrong for Africa because it accentuates ethnic rivalries. Mugabe's isolation as he pursues the plan is becoming increasingly marked, diplomats say.

Discontentment

"There is a plenty of discontent over the one-party issue within Zanu," one Western diplomat said. "Mugabe has a genuine conviction that unity is the way forward, but that conviction sits uneasily with the aims of some people in government."

For one outspoken critic of the one-party state, Dr Jonathon Moyo of the University of Zimbabwe, the question now is whether Mugabe can override muted opposition from the party and the electorate and force his dream of the country.

"The question is whether the president is powerful enough to carry the idea through, if he is it will see a one-party state," Moyo told Reuters.

Zanu-PF won 116 of 119 contested seats in the election, but — in a climate of repressed hostility to the one-party state — half the electorate failed to vote, partly due to apathy and to fears of post-election reprisals against the opposition.

Mugabe hailed the result as a mandate for one-party rule, a comment not reported by the strongly pro-Zimbabwean press. But he was cautious about when it would be introduced and whether a referendum was needed to confirm support for it.

He also stressed that his dream had been approved by Zanu's party congress and had been part of its election manifesto.

It is not referred to in the manifesto, and Mugabe has since blown hot and cold about the idea.

He did not mention it at Zimbabwe's 10th independence anniversary in April, or during his

parliamentary opening speech outlining plans for the current session two weeks ago.

"There's an argument in some circles that he's now looking for a decent exit, a way to let it die quietly. I think it's a sinister argument," Moyo said. "If the issue's raised, it's an issue. And Mugabe has continued to raise it."

At less ceremonial venues, Mugabe is still saying the one-party state is on its way.

Democracy

He spoke in favour of the idea while in Switzerland last week. At a May 1 rally he told Zimbabweans that other African one-party states were being forced by Western aid donors into experimenting with democracy.

Elsewhere in Africa, one-party states are beginning to move towards the kind of multi-party democracy already set up in Namibia, Mozambique, Kenya, Angola, and Zaire are all exploring the possibility of broadening their government systems.

"The result is the marginalisation of Zimbabwe by neighbouring countries," Moyo said. "People are asking 'what's going on? Why are you going where others are coming from?' Going against the current will become unbearable."

The absence of a charismatic opponent of one-party rule in party ranks has hamstrung the timid critics from Zanu.

Veteran leader Joshua Nkomo, who led the PF-Zanu Party of southern Zimbabwe's Ndebele people until it was absorbed into Zanu last year, has kept quiet.

Diplomats said Vice-President Nkomo, a grizzled elder statesman who's with Mugabe started Zimbabwe to independence in 1980, saw too much at stake to dare speak out.

The merger between Zanu and Zanu ended years of bloody conflict between Ndebele and the Shona people who form the backbone of Mugabe's support. Diplomats said Nkomo did not want to do anything to restart the unrest.

"You might have thought he (Nkomo) would have entered the debate by now, but I can see why he

might not," said Nicholas Ndebele, director of Marare's Catholic Commission for Peace and Justice (CJP).

Condemned

"If anyone fought for their country it was him, but he's been accused of dividing the country ... of destroying everything he himself had fought for," said Ndebele, whose human rights group condemned the one-party state during the election.

"I think we can interpret the silence of some senior members of government in terms of fear they might lose their jobs," he said. "Feelings against the one-party state are very, very strong, but the president is also very, very powerful."

"I think many Zanu members believe it will come by whether or not they like it, and then if they've spoken out publicly they will be in a difficult position," Ndebele added.

Discreet hints of rebellion are in the air. Labour Secretary John Nkomo told consistently members at the weekend that opposition parties should not be harassed as it was their constitutional right to oppose the government.

Finance Minister Bernard Chidzero, whose aim of attracting foreign investors to Zimbabwe is being compromised by Mugabe's support for a one-party state, said last week in the United States:

"In my part of the world there are many countries which are one-party states, and changes are beginning to take place even there. I think this should be encouraged and we ought to learn a great deal from what has happened in Eastern Europe."

Diplomats say several Zanu members at a post-election Central Committee meeting blamed the unpopular one-party state idea for voter apathy, but the president ignored them.

Moyo said the veiled criticisms by Zanu members should be taken with a pinch of salt.

"To stay there they should institute (to voters) they don't like it but must implement it," he said, adding:

"Everyone's criticising the one-party state is saying we need a referendum, and no African leader has ever not won a referendum."

Trick backfired on political system

IT was a sorry day in Texas when Ann Richards won the Democratic nomination over Jim Mattox, in what has been described as one of the dirtiest campaigns in the history of the state. It was bad because the dirty tricks used in the fight backfired on the political system as we know it.

When all the results were in, Political Musicians of America (the organization of dirty pool managers) called an emergency meeting to find out where they had gone wrong.

"This is the lowest day in the history of political campaigning," One-Eyed Robemutter declared. "It may mean that fighting in the gutter doesn't work, and we could all be out of work for the 1992 elections."

Shorty Benzodinger said, "Let's not panic. Just because our vicious, below-the-belt personal attacks on Ann Richards didn't catch on doesn't mean we should discard them as a fair campaign tactic. Don't forget she's a woman, and occasionally dirty tricks can be effective when you're trying to defeat one of your political enemies."

Along Mohr stood up. "As you know, I was one of the first people in this organization to start mud. It was weak at first, until the Richard's contest. My analysis was that we threw too much mud at her, but that we didn't throw enough. There were a lot more things she could have been accused of doing."

"For example, people are pretty nervous about hepatitis these days, I urged Mattox's people to make a commercial showing her at a blood bank with a voice-over saying, 'How many people will Ann Richards infect?' But they felt that it was too dirty, and they preferred to stick with the dope campaign."

"With all due respect," said Michael Minimal, "I believe that we're breast-beating too much over this. The public expects us to take the low road. The tricks is to be nasty and untrustful at the same time."

Roger Dodger asked, "Does that mean we can continue to show a man on death row endorsing our opponent for giving him weekend leave?"

"Yes, but we have to be careful about how we show the opposing candidate pushing an old lady in a wheelchair down the stairs. Ann Richards' victory was an accident. The clean-election people are using it as an example of what can happen to candidates who resort to dirty tricks. We have to prove to the public that we can still win elections with a mad-dog-attack approach. Our living depends on that, and we have to be careful about what we say in politics if we want to maintain an ethical standard."

One-Eyed Robemutter tried to sound upbeat. "Forget Ann Richards and go for the big one in '92. Willie Horton is still alive and well for another presidential campaign. We've hired mudsmashers — the best in the business — and the politicians are going to need us as soon as their ratings in the polls drop. Our message to them is, one Ann Richard's victory does not mean that they can't continue to be inexcusable, unpardonable and unforgivable TV commercials to win their elections."

Shorty Benzodinger suggested, "How about having a film festival to show all the dirty commercials we made in the last four years? This would give the candidates in '92 an opportunity to see how hitting below the belt can benefit them."

One-Eyed Robemutter said, "Good idea. Shorty, if we're going to stay mud, we may as well relax and enjoy it."

Los Angeles Times Syndicate

Marx, Lenin proved wrong by history

VIENNA, (CSM): The revolutions of 1848, Karl Marx optimistically opined, would remove Europe's nationalist antagonisms.

After Russia's 1917 revolution, Vladimir Lenin developed the theory. He believed 'capitalism's collapse to be imminent'. It must inexorably hasten the end of nationalism, he said.

The years between then and World War II proved Lenin as wrong as Marx before him. Central Europe and its perennial Balkan powder keg still loaded with ancient ethnic quarrels and conflicts over redrawn frontiers dating from the last century.

Today, with the demise not of capitalism but of the system Russia imposed on Eastern Europe 45 years ago, the "ghosts" of those old nationalisms are reminding communism's successors of one of their hardest tasks ahead.

Tensions

The renewed tensions between Hungary and Rumania over the position of 1.5 million Hungarians in Rumania's Transylvania region show just how hard. The region was Hungarian until 1918. Both countries retain historic claims to it. But today's issue is not territory — the 1975 Helsinki Accords froze Europe's existing borders — but the rights of that large Hungarian minority.

Nicolae Ceausescu's ruthless assimilation policies against it brought open conflict between Budapest and Bucharest even before both communist regimes fell, in Hungary by reform and in Rumania by the December revolution.

Immediately, Rumania's ruling National Salvation Front promised speedy restoration of the Hungarian rights. But four months later, in the face of rightist pressures and opposition to the loss of communist power, it still had done nothing.

The result was violent rioting in Targu Mures, last month capital of a formerly Hungarian autonomous region.

Elsewhere in Eastern Europe, Poland has problems with postwar German descendants. Czecks have not forgotten that Poland grabbed a bit of their country when the Munich agreement left it at Adolf Hitler's mercy prior

MIDEAST



Najjar calls on UN
Suleiman Najjar member of the executive committee of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) told Reuters in Tunis May 17, that the United Nations should set up a body to guarantee the ban on the settlement of Soviet Jews in occupied Palestinian territories. (Reuter wirephoto)

PLO to demand global action

TUNIS, May 18. (Reuters): The Palestine Liberation Organisation has said it would press at the Arab summit in Baghdad for international steps to stop Soviet Jews settling in Israeli-occupied territories.

Suleiman Najjar, PLO Executive Committee member, told Reuters:

"We think the United Nations should set up a body to guarantee a ban on settlements (for Soviet Jews) in occupied Palestinian territories."

Najjar said: "The PLO is deploying every effort to unravel this problem and I think that Syria will be present."

"There is no reason for Syria to be absent from the summit whose aims conform with Syrian efforts to close Arab ranks and avoid any hegemony in the region," he added.

Six Jewish families yesterday quietly moved into temporary homes in the occupied Gaza Strip settlement of Dujieh, Israel television reported.

After the protests by Israeli settlers in the settlement, the first group of settlers preferred to slip into their prefabricated homes quietly, the television said.

"It is not difficult," an unidentified settler said on Israel television. "Here everyone you see is invading. This is the state of Israel, that is the first thing. What can we do, this is life."

Settlement of more Jews in Israeli-occupied territories could be a major stumbling block to peaceful solution of Middle East problems, the head of UN Agency for Palestinian refugees said today.

Giorgio Giaquemelli, commissioner general of Unrwa — the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine refugees in the near east — told a news conference:

"We must believe in the freedom of people to go where they want."

"But feelings run very high among the Palestinians when they see land settled which they think belongs to them. I hear this from the Palestinians and from the Arab governments."

Israeli and Finnish authorities are completing a plan to transport thousands of Soviet Jews to Israel through a small airport on the Finnish-Soviet border, officials said yesterday.

The operation would make Finland the fourth major route for Jews emigrating from the Soviet Union, along with Hungary, Romania and Poland, the sources said.

Arab countries have agreed to delay a Security Council vote on Soviet Jewish immigration to Israel and the occupied territories until after an Arab summit meeting in Baghdad late this month, UN diplomats said yesterday.

The diplomats, from Arab countries and the West, said that after more than a week of intense negotiations, there was general agreement that a formal meeting would be postponed to await the results of the summit. Frustrated negotiations on an acceptable resolution have been under way for more than two and a half months.

The damaging cost to Israel's economy of absorbing the wave of Soviet Jewish migrants was highlighted by a leading newspaper in London today.

Nidal squads on 'mad' campaign

TUNIS, May 18. (Reuters): A former top aide has accused Palestinian radical leader Abu Nidal of murdering two defectors and critically wounding a third in a "mad" campaign by death squads against former comrades.

Alef Abu Bakr, who broke with Abu Nidal in October to form the Fatal Revolutionary Council Emergency Leadership, vowed to retaliate for the attacks, which he said took place in Lebanon, Algeria and Syria in recent weeks.

Israel considering buying supercomputer from West German firm

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, May 18, (Reuters): Despairing of securing a licence to import a US supercomputer, Israel is considering buying one from a West German firm, an official of the leading Israeli technology institute said today.

Professor Brian Silver, vice-president for development at Haifa's Technion Israel Institute of Technology, said representatives of Bonn-based Superium GMBH visited Israel recently to present a supercomputer.

"We ordered a supercomputer from the American company Cray but we doubt it will

PLO realigning military ranks to upgrade combat potential

KUWAIT, May 18, (AP): The Palestine Liberation Organisation is consolidating its military forces from throughout the Middle East in Iraq and Libya under a new strategy to upgrade its combat potential, according to PLO officials and Gulf newspaper reports yesterday.

The Kuwaiti daily quoted what it described as authoritative Palestinian sources in Tunis as saying the PLO leadership recently held a meeting in the Iraqi capital of Baghdad and adopted "a new Pales-

tinian military strategy ... that provides for gathering all Palestinian forces to enable them to restore their combat abilities."

It said that under the new plan all Palestinian forces have been shifted to two Arab countries, Iraq and Libya, from Algeria, Sudan, and the two Yemeni states, which hosted the Palestinian commandos after the exodus from Lebanon in 1982.

The transfer process was in line with the tasks to

be assigned to these forces in the coming stage, the paper said.

PLO military strength has usually been scattered in Arab countries — particularly since some 8,000 PLO fighters were forced out of Beirut after the 1982 Israeli invasion of the Lebanese capital and another estimated 3,000 a year later from the northern Lebanese town of Tripoli under Syrian pressure.

Senior PLO figures say they have returned, with the organisation's strength in Lebanon estimated at

more than 11,000 fighters.

Meanwhile, in neighbouring United Arab Emirates, the state-run newspaper Al Ittihad quoted its own sources as saying that military conscription would be enforced among Palestinian youth and that they would be trained through the armies of the Arab countries hosting them.

A high-ranking PLO official, who spoke to the Associated Press on condition he not be named, confirmed the military realignment.

Teenager shot dead in W. Bank

Nablus under curfew

OCCUPIED Jerusalem, May 18, (UPI): Paramilitary border police shot and killed a 13-year-old Palestinian during a West Bank stone-throwing incident today, one day after a Swedish human rights group issued a report condemning the army's use of violence against Arab children.

The teenager was killed when border police dispersed youths from the Balata refugee camp who threw stones at an oil truck on the outskirts of the camp, military sources said.

One policeman fired a rubber bullet, killing Isam Al Mugharabi, military and Palestinian sources said. The camp, which is in Nablus, the largest West Bank city, was later put under curfew, the sources said.

Military authorities clamped curfews on the neighbouring Balata and Asfar Palestinian refugee camps, the sources said.

In Hebron, scores of troops searched for two gunmen who ambushed an army patrol last night, wounding a soldier.

Kids in held lands Call to protect

OCCUPIED Jerusalem, May 18, (AP): A human rights report published yesterday said 159 Arab children were killed and as many as 63,000 were wounded by bullets, beatings and tear gas during the first two years of the Palestinian uprising.

Many soldiers consider Palestinian children's lives to be of little worth," alleges the report, which focuses only on army activity. It says violence against children is "severe, indiscriminate, multidimensional and recurrent."

The findings were rejected by the army and criticised by an Israeli human rights activist as being one-sided.

Lt. Col. Moshe Fogel, an army spokesman, countered that pro-PLO activists used the children as shields during protests and were responsible for their injury.

"We are faced with an uprising which turns its children into martyrs and actually encourages minors to participate in violent activities against Israeli soldiers whether actively or passively," he said.

Fogel added that researchers never approached the army for reaction about Palestinian versions of events.

Thomas Hammarberg, head of the Swedish group and a former secretary-general of Amnesty International, said Israeli leaders had failed to investigate abuses adequately and had given soldiers the impression they had freedom to do as they liked.

"It could be the soldiers believe plastic and rubber-coated bullets are non-lethal," he said in an interview. "But I think it begins to take the form of the intentional if they let it continue when they know the consequences."

He said the importance of the study was in documenting the scope of the child casualties "which is far higher than has been reported by the media."

The report said 106 of the 159 children died from gunshot wounds in the first two years and 13 have been shot to death so far this year. The uprising in the occupied Gaza Strip and West Bank is in its 30th month.

By comparison, the Israeli information centre for human rights in the occupied territories said 148 children died through May 1.

Spokeswoman Zahava Galon said tear gas deaths were excluded as too difficult to substantiate and no reliable injury estimates are available.

The army disputed the report's claim that "the vast majority" of soldiers were not punished for wrongdoing. Fogel said soldiers were court-martialed or disciplined for improper use of force in 25 percent of the 79 army-counted cases in which children under 14 were fatally wounded in the past 29 months.

He cited one case in which a soldier was sentenced to two months in jail and six months probation after shooting a 13-year-old girl in Gaza's beach camp last July 26.

A military court gave two Israeli soldiers suspended jail terms for kicking a Palestinian child and stubbing out a lit cigarette on him, an army spokesman said yesterday.

The court gave Corporal Doron Algazi and Sergeant-Major Yaakov Bouchbar three-month suspended sentences for improper behaviour towards a 13-year-old child in the occupied West Bank city of Nablus after a clash with stone-throwers last August.



Mubarak, Thatcher discuss

Bahrain and Egypt on Thursday discussed the spread of weapons in the Middle East and the immigration of Soviet Jews to Israeli-occupied Arab lands.

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher had a 45-minute meeting and continued their talks over dinner.

A spokeswoman for Thatcher said they discussed Mubarak's recent trips to China and the Soviet Union, the general Middle East situation and the "spread of weapons and missile technology" in the region.

There was no specific mention of Iraq. Britain has in the last two months seized 40 electronic components bound for Iraq which it said could be used as triggers for nuclear weapons.

Then steel pipes, which the British government charged were parts for a huge Iraqi tank were impounded in Britain last month.

But apart from listing the items on the agenda of Mubarak's talks with Thatcher, officials refused to say how far they examined Iraq's developing military power in the region. (Reuter wirephoto)

Israel considering buying supercomputer from West German firm

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, May 18, (Reuters): Despairing of securing a licence to import a US supercomputer, Israel is considering buying one from a West German firm, an official of the leading Israeli technology institute said today.

Professor Brian Silver, vice-president for development at Haifa's Technion Israel Institute of Technology, said representatives of Bonn-based Superium GMBH visited Israel recently to present a supercomputer.

"That left us with no option. But over the past year a German company which has government backing produced a supercomputer," Silver added.

Supernum's "parallel" supercomputer is based on completely different principles to its

US counterpart but is also of great interest to the Technion, Silver said.

US press reports said Washington withheld licences to sell supercomputers to the Techion and its Israeli military industries out of concern over alleged Israeli co-operation with South Africa in developing a medium-range missile.

Western diplomats told Reuters that Israel was angered by reports that United States was allowing the same supercomputer to be exported to Saudi Arabia.



Attempt to replace

Members of the Af Ibdah family attempt to replace broken grapevines, May 16 that were uprooted when Israeli police demolished a garage that was built without permit. Rubble from the demolished garage is at bottom of the picture. The garage was in the Beit Hanina neighbourhood of occupied east Jerusalem. (Reuter wirephoto)

Free our men: Iran

DUBLIN, Ireland, May 18, (AP): A top Iranian official has demanded the release of Muslims held in Israel and Lebanon, and indicated that no more Western hostages will be freed until there is a reciprocal gesture.

Iranian soldiers shot and wounded seven Palestinians in the occupied Gaza Strip yesterday when they dispersed hundreds of Arabs mourning the death of two fellow-villagers, hospitals said.

Witnesses said soldiers shot five people in the village of Beit Hanina after residents marched to the grave of a 24-year-old man killed by troops last Thursday.

They said the march was staged after the army lifted a week-long curfew on the village and was intended as a peaceful event. Palestinians usually visit the graveyard the day after someone died.

We believe that goodwill should be shown against goodwill."

At a news conference after the three-hour meeting at Dublin

Castle, Moussavian also accused Western countries of racism for caring only about Western captives.

And he was adamant that Iran will not retract its death sentence against India-born British author Salman Rushdie.

Ireland, which holds the rotating presidency of the 12-nation community, made no statement after the meeting.

But the talks appeared to have made no progress toward securing the freedom of the remaining Western hostages — despite modest hopes raised by the fact that Iran sought the meeting and helped free in the past month two of six Americans held by pro-

Iranian Muslim captors.

At the news conference, Moussavian repeatedly maintained that freeing the Western hostages depended on "goodwill."

But Moussavian indicated that Iran will not press for the release of the remaining Westerners unless the West now pushed for the freedom of "hundreds of Muslims" held by Israel and Lebanese Christian groups.

Asked why Iran has not apparently followed up its efforts that helped free Americans Robert Polhill and Frank Reed, Moussavian said the Lebanese group holding Westerners now expect to see Muslim captives freed.

The goal would be to win the widest possible commitments of Arab financial and military support for Hirawi's government to enable it to rebuild the country's devastated infrastructure and expand its authority to all Lebanese territory.

Arab states have agreed to hold a summit in Baghdad on May 28.

Aoun rejects a peace plan for Lebanon drawn up by the three Arab states, mandated by the last Arab summit in Casablanca one year ago to solve the Lebanese crisis.

He wants a new peace plan that would ensure a total withdrawal of Syrian troops from Lebanon.

■ Israel's proxy force in south Lebanon has arrested three Lebanese in connection with the killing of American Christian missionary William Robinson, security sources say.

They said the three were held at a prison run by the Israeli-affiliated South Lebanon Army militia in the town of Khamis, within Israel's self-proclaimed "security zone" of south Lebanon.

■ A Finnish soldier serving with the United Nations Peace-keeping Force was wounded today by Israeli machine gunfire in south Lebanon, a UN officer said.

The officer, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the soldier was slightly wounded to his right leg when Israeli troops in the so-called "security zone" opened up on the village of Taibeh.

The Finnish soldier was wounded outside his position in the village, the officer said. He refused to identify the wounded soldier, pending notification of his family.

FAO meet to combat killer fly

ROME, May 18, (Kuna): Representatives of more than 40 countries in the Food and Agriculture Organisation held an extraordinary meeting here today to discuss ways of combating a killer fly threatening the animal wealth and human life in the near east, southern parts of the Mediterranean and Africa.

FAO's director Eduard Soms described the situation as very dangerous, urging for provision of required funds, before it is too late.

The representatives are discussing an \$85 million programme to fight the killer fly, scientifically known as *cimicomyzus bombycomyzae*.

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Truce holds in east Beirut

BEIRUT, May 18, (Reuters): A fragile truce was holding in Lebanon's Christian enclave for the third day today, but there were no signs of a political compromise to bring lasting peace.

Security sources said army units loyal to General Michel Aoun and Lebanese Forces (LF) militiamen kept their guns silent in east Beirut and along a maze of frontlines to the north and northeast.

Despite occasional sniper fire in some areas, thousands of civilians ventured out to clear rubble and patch the shattered windows of their homes.

But crossing points linking LF-held areas to Aoun-controlled territory remained closed for the 10th consecutive day. The general's men gave no explanation for shutting the passages.

The church-mediated ceasefire went into effect late on Wednesday, halting more than a week of fierce artillery duels.

Political sources said it had no chance of lasting unless consolidated by a political compromise between Aoun and LF chief Samir Geagea. They said there was no serious attempt by mediators to bridge the gap between the two.

Dozens of ceasefires have collapsed since the inter-Christian battle for control of east Beirut began on January 31.

FLN's biggest show of force

Reply to fundamentalists

ALGIERS, May 18. (AP): An estimated 100,000 people marched yesterday through central Algiers, singing patriotic songs and chanting for the ruling National Liberation Front (FLN).

Proclaimed as a "national demonstration of fraternity and solidarity," the march was intended as a reply to the fundamentalist Islamic Salvation Front and the pro-democracy movement, which organised similar, separate demonstrations during the past month.

By contrast with last week's pro-democracy demonstration, which drew about 100,000 people in pouring rain, the ruling party's march was favoured by sunshine. The fundamentalists' march on April 20 drew an estimated 200,000 people.

Many of the marchers yesterday were farm workers and nearly all were men. Most appeared old enough to have experienced Algeria's eight-year war of liberation against France which ended 28 years ago.

It was the ruling party's first major demonstration in Algiers since bloody riots erupted in October 1988 against unemployment, low living standards and the dictatorship of a self-appointed clique.

Traffic was at a standstill throughout the city centre as marchers walked slowly for three



Two Algerian women, one wearing the traditional veil, shout slogans in support of the ruling National Liberation Front (FLN) during a march through the Algerian capital on Thursday. More than 200,000 Algerians took part in the march which marks a stunning comeback of the FLN one month ahead of the first free elections. (Reuter wirephoto)

kilometres (two miles) from the 1st of May Square to the Square of the Martyrs, kept in line by officials with arm bands and megaphones. No violence was reported.

The demonstration took place three weeks before local elections scheduled June 12, the first multi-party elections since independence.

The march was carefully organised by the National Liberation Front, which mobilised trains and buses from across the country to bring demonstrators to Algiers. By contrast, the Islamic march in April was

held without assistance from state-owned transportation.

The official Algerian news agency estimated the number of marchers at more than 100,000. Police along the route guessed more conservatively there were "tens of thousands."

The demonstrators carried thousands of Algerian flags and political banners, many of them directed against those who have amassed huge fortunes during the past 25 years. These fortunes caused much of the anti-government resentment which led to the 1988 riots.

For the past six weeks a joint committee of Israeli and Jordanian health officials has been working to exterminate the pests affecting tour-

MIDEAST BRIEFS



Vagiz Khidatullin reaches out and touches the Western Wall on Thursday as he and members of the USSR national soccer team visit occupied Jerusalem. (Reuter wirephoto)

Municipal polls

Islamists win

ZARQA, Jordan, May 18. (Reuter): The Muslim Brotherhood and its fundamentalist allies swept to victory in municipal elections in Zarqa, Jordan's third city, according to preliminary results yesterday.

Three fundamentalist groups standing as independent candidates won the highest number of votes in another election for nine municipal seats at the port of Aqaba.

In a remarkable showing, the Islamic Action Bloc, one of five groups contesting the Zarqa election, had all its nine members elected.

ist areas, it said. (Reuter)

Soldiers to fill in as waiters: Cyprus is considering a new use for soldiers conscripted into the national guard — as waiters and barmen in holiday resorts.

Labour Minister Iacovos Arisidou suggested using young soldiers doing national service to fill vacancies and stop illegal hiring of foreigners by the tourist industry. (Reuter)

Demjanjuk identification wrong:

The defence attorney appealing the war crimes conviction and death sentence of retired Cleveland autoworker John Demjanjuk said Thursday that one witness who identified him as a Nazi death camp guard as "semile" and others were mistaken.

Demjanjuk's Israeli lawyer, Yoram Shelef, strenuously attacked his identification from photo lineup by witness Joseph Charney. (AP)

Bashir, diplomats say, is more firmly in control since supporting an attempted counter-coup by young army officers last month. But they add he still takes precautions against photo despite the execution of 28 officers one day after the coup failed.

"Yes, he is now in full control more than before, but he does not sleep in the same bed every night. He moves a lot," said an Arab diplomatic source.

Meanwhile, Sudanese rebel leaders held talks with US officials in the Kenyan capital yesterday, aimed at paving the way for a ceasefire in Sudan's bloody seven-year civil war. European diplomats said.

Sudan's rulers promise dialogue

KHARTOUM, May 18. (Reuter): Sudan's military rulers, deriding the democracy they overthrew 10 months ago, have promised a national dialogue on the future of politics in Africa's largest country.

Brigadier Osman Ahmed Hassan, third in command of the Junta, told Reuters the dialogue would be held soon but gave no date.

Hassan, who heads a committee responsible for reorganising political life, said now-banned political parties "did not represent the people." He declined to say whether the 15-member junta would be willing eventually to hand power to civilians.

Eleven Soviet-made T-52 tanks have guarded Nile brigades and the home of junta leader Omar Hassan Al Bashir since he seized power last June 30. Khartoum's six million people have been under curfew since July.

Sudanese, many of whom were disenchanted with the government of ousted Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi, are now waiting to hear the junta's political plans.

"Nobody knows what it's about. For sure, it will not include political parties," a Western diplomat said.

The junta arrested politicians and dissolved Parliament soon after taking power. Many were later released but Mahdi is under house arrest.

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Kabul shows off spies, warns Pakistan 'stop interfering' or else

KABUL, May 17. (Agencies): The Soviet-backed Afghan government yesterday showed off three spies it claimed were trained by Pakistan and told its eastern neighbour to stop creating trouble or face grave consequences.

Pakistan has "intensified its interference in the most flagrant form including launching plans to topple state power in the republic of Afghanistan," a Foreign Ministry spokesman told a news conference in Kabul, where the three Pakistani youths were put on display.

The spokesman accused Islamabad of sending Pakistani mercenaries to undermine the Kabul government, which has been fighting a civil war for nearly 12 years.

The government said fighting has recently eased but rebel rockets continue to hit the capital and one on Wednesday landed close to the Czechoslovakian embassy.

Seated in a huge conference room with walls lined with landscape paintings, the three, all about 18 years old, took turns to speak to the media

through an interpreter.

One of the captives suddenly broke into English to deny he was a member of the Pakistan Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) agency.

The other two, one lounging back and occasionally smiling, said they had been trained by Pakistan before working with rebels, who are largely armed by the West.

"I'm not a member of the ISI ... the government of Pakistan had nothing to do with my coming to Afghanistan," blurted out Sayed Ghayoruddin in

English, rolling frightened eyes up to the ceiling.

Claiming to be a member of the Jihad Islamic rebel group, he said he had been lured to Afghanistan by the rebels because they offered him money and he could not get a job in Karachi.

His fellow prisoners said they had been told the government of Afghanistan was communist and its people infidels.

"Now I have changed my mind," said a smiling Basharat Mahmood, who said he had been treated well by his

captors.

Neither of the others commented on his treatment.

They will all be tried in a special court, but one official said they would not be executed.

Iran-based Afghan rebels would not accept an election plan pushed by their colleagues in Pakistan, a mujahideen leader said on Wednesday.

Lolijni said the Pakistan-based mujahideen leaders did not represent the Afghan refugees in Iran and were

divided among themselves over the election plan.

An alliance of seven Sunni-Muslim mujahideen groups based in Pakistan plans to hold elections ahead of the formation of a grand council in warring Afghanistan.

In other developments Afghanistan yesterday proposed major changes to its constitution that one diplomat said was an admission the 12-year-old revolution had failed and the country would return to the days before the start of the civil war.

Press conference at the Meridien Hotel by Habchi & Chalhoub w.l.l. (distributors in Kuwait)



The press conference in progress at the Meridien.

masculine, sensual harmony for a younger man with a powerful personality.

Pour Monsieur is the expression of a classic charm, an elegant refined fragrance.

Egoiste takes its place alongside these two charac-

ters.

It is the Eau de Toilette for a determined, fulfilled man, who has little to prove, but much to accomplish.

An expression of strength

To contain this self-assured strength: a smooth block with clear-cut, solid and dynamic lines.

Everything is language, and this new bottle speaks of the man with an out-of-the ordinary personality.

The spirit of Chanel, in its most masculine form, interpreted with assurance and determination, unyielding yet not forceful.

Light plays on the classic facets of the bottle and contrasts with the bold, subtly textured black stopper.

A sure, firm gesture: this bottle is decidedly made for a man's hand.

A new angle on seduction

A fragrance full of character, which has both impact and maturity. Beyond the unexpected contrasting sensations, a profound, unique harmony.

The main theme is Sandalwood from Mysore, which dominates the architecture of the composition.

Each step in the unveiling of the fragrance reveals the facets of a personality sure of itself.

Vigour: fruity freshness, Mandarin and Rosewood.



Jacques Polge (left) with Jacques Helleu.

Eau de Parfum. And today: Egoiste.

Jacques Polge is in charge of a real hive of creativity. He liaises with the flower processing plant in Grasse, without losing touch with scientific research into chromatography and mass spectrometry.

His laboratory, as secret as NASA, is a mystical combination of alchemy with the most up-to-date technology in the field of chemistry. A brave new world of fantasy which appeals to the most mysterious of the five senses — the sense of smell — and endows the man behind Chanel's perfume with the gifts of the visionary and the charm of the poet.

For Jacques Polge, Egoiste is neither a vice nor a virtue, it is simply the natural expressions of his art.

Only by spending time alone, reflecting and examining his own thoughts himself, can Jacques Polge create products to be appreciated by millions.

Jacques Helleu knows everything there is to know about the language of Chanel, a secret language handed down to him by his family which has worked with Chanel for generations.

Anything yet to be discovered, he grasps intuitively.

For him, the spirit of crea-

tion must be visible in the most minute detail: the shape of the bottle, visual images, graphic design. Metrical attention is given to every last detail. Change after change is made. This is the route to perfection. With

the help of the bottle, visual images, graphic design. He works to a tenth of a millimetre.

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BUSINESS & FINANCE

كما في الأصل

Dollar slightly higher

LONDON, May 18. (Reuters): British shares closed lower today after profit-taking cut short a powerful rally. Gold ended at \$369.75 an ounce in the London bullion market after finishing yesterday at \$369.20.

On European currency markets, the dollar edged a shade higher in quiet business.

In London, shares ended near the day's lows after a nervous session and news of a weak start on Wall Street.

But most of the damage was done in early trading as investors took profits after the market had swiftly added 37 points to yesterday's 63.3-point surge.

The Financial Times-Stock Exchange index of 100 blue chips closed 15.3 points down at 2,269.1. Although down on the day, it was still a gain of 93.2, or 4.6 per cent, on the week.

"It's very difficult to say where the market's going next," said one London dealer. The index's all-time closing high of 2,463.7 was set on January 3.

Dealers said yesterday's rally had been inspired a shortage of stock for sale and by signs that Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's government was softening its stand on a key issue of European Community monetary policy.

In the view of some of the markets, the shift could lead to sterling soon entering the exchange rate mechanism of the European Monetary system which theory could lead to an easing of monetary policy and lower interest rates.

Shares in Paris closed slightly lower while the Frankfurt Bourse posted only a meagre gain.

In currencies, the dollar finished a touch higher after staying in a narrow range in quiet end-of-week business.

"Today was a typical Friday," said one Frankfurt dealer. "Nothing was going on and movements were limited."

Dealers said the market shrank off news that East and West Germany had signed a treaty paving the way to economic union between the two countries, including the introduction of the West German mark into East Germany in July.

They said the treaty did nothing to ease lingering doubts about the cost of German unification and monetary union, adding that the mark would stay under pressure for the time being.

UK jobless rate rises

LONDON, May 18. (Reuters): The number of workers without jobs in Britain has risen for the first time in four years in a sign that the economy is slowing, the government said on Thursday.

Unemployment rose a provisional, seasonally-adjusted 1,200 in April to 1.61 million or 5.6 per cent of the workforce, the same percentage as the previous two months, Employment Secretary Michael Howard said.

It was the first increase since the number of jobless peaked at 3.1 million in July 1986, seven years after Conservative Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher came to power.

"This month's small rise in seasonally adjusted unemployment should be set in the context of the period of lower economic growth expected in 1990 and referred to by the chancellor in his budget statement," Howard said.

Economic treaty will mean single currency

BONN, May 18. (Reuters): East and West Germany sign an economic union treaty today which will give them a single currency and form a blueprint for a unified state.

The treaty on economic, currency and social union sets Sunday, July 1 as the date from which the West German mark becomes legal tender in East Germany.

East German Finance Minister Walter Römerberg, who will sign the treaty with his Western counterpart Theo Waigel, said: "We in East Germany know we have started on the road into another country."

East German banks will open on a

Sunday for the first and probably only time to allow people to change their almost worthless marks into crisp, new West German banknotes.

From July 1, the sole legal means of payment will be Deutsche mark bank notes issued by the German Bundesbank (Central Bank) and Deutsche mark or pfennig coins issued by the Federal Republic. The treaty says:

East Germans will have until July 6 to swap bank notes and coins into the West German variety at the highly favourable rate of one for one.

Savers can swap up to 6,000 marks (\$3,650) at the same rate, depending on

their age. Savings above that level will be swapped at two for one.

East German officials say the state-owned banks will open on Sunday July 1 to avoid massive absenteeism from work and huge queues at the opening of business the next day.

To prevent cheating, East Germans will have to show identification and complete a form, stating, among other things, that they obtained their money legally. And they will have to open a bank account rather than simply exchanging the money over the counter.

The Bundesbank is being almost as

secretive about its preparations for currency union as the Western allies -- the United States, Britain and France -- were when they laid the groundwork for West Germany's currency reform in 1948.

The replacement of the Nazi Reichsmark by the new Deutschemark in the Western occupation zones -- the Soviet Union refused to participate -- paved the way for the emergence of two states on German soil.

It immediately hardened the divisions between the occupation zones and led, in 1949, to the setting up of the free market West German Federal

Republic and the communist German Democratic Republic in the East.

The new currency reform is now being used to heal the divisions created by the previous one.

In spring of 1948, billions of new banknotes, printed in the United States, were secretly stored in the vaults of the old reich Central Bank in Frankfurt and distributed under military escort throughout the Western zones.

Today, the Bundesbank refuses to disclose how many West German notes and coins it will ship across the border. It even refuses to comment on its plans to train East German bank staff for the

swap.

A spokeswoman for the Bundesbank said only that it would not have to print new notes -- "East German requirements can be covered from our reserves."

Foreigners who happen to be in East Germany will not be able to take advantage of West Germany's generosity.

Banks will buy back their East German money at the tourist rate -- recently upgraded from three to two for one -- provided they have receipts to show they did not obtain the money on the black market.

Plan to set up fertiliser plant

Turkey, Iran, Pakistan to boost economic ties

ANKARA, May 18. (Reuters): Turkey, Iran and Pakistan, which want to boost economic and technical exchanges, have agreed to upgrade their Economic Co-operation Organisation (ECO).

"We got very firm support

from Turkish President (Turgut Ozal) for the common market," a Pakistani spokesman said on Thursday as Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto flew to Syria on the third leg of an eight-nation tour.

Spokesman Tanvir Ahmad Khan said Iran, the first call by Bhutto in her Middle East visit, had assured Pakistan of its full support for a common market.

Khan said foreign secretaries of the three countries met in Tehran on Tuesday and decided to upgrade economic ties.

Bhutto has also advocated to Iran and Turkey that the three

countries should enter a phase of renewed activity.

"We should actively participate, along with Turkey and Iran, in the current efforts to revitalise the ECO ...," Bhutto told Turkish Prime Minister Yildirim Akbulut on Wednesday in Ankara.

"We sincerely hope that the ECO will emerge as a useful organisation to promote economic and technical exchanges between its member states."

Iran's President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani told Bhutto in Tehran: "ECO in its new shape, and free from its former imposed and colonial traits, can pave the way for the further closeness of Islamic countries."

It could play a constructive role in creating conditions conducive to the creation of an Islamic common market, an important and fundamental fac-

tor for the restoration of the grandeur of Islam and Muslims," Rafsanjani said.

Meanwhile, Syria and Pakistan have agreed to set up a phosphate fertiliser plant near Damascus with annual capacity of 300,000 tonnes, a Pakistani spokesman said today.

He reported the agreement following talks between Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto and Syrian President Hafez Al Assad. Bhutto said today.

The spokesman said the two countries would approach the Islamic Development Bank for loans to buy machinery through international tender.

He did not give the total cost of the project but said it could be several hundred million dollars.

The plant, Pakistan's first major project abroad, would employ both Syrians and Pakistanis and

the two countries would split production equally.

The spokesman also said Pakistan had agreed to provide Syria with a \$10 million loan to buy Pakistani tractors and other engineering goods.

He said Pakistan had offered a gift of 5,000 tonnes of rice to Syria.

Pakistan has offered to use its port and railway facilities to transport Iranian oil to remote areas of southeast Iran.

"Iran has shown keen interest in the offer," Pakistani Railways Minister Zafar Ali Khan Leghari told reporters.

The plan is to ship oil from Bandar Abbas on the Hormuz Strait to Karachi port from where it would be carried by train to the provincial capital of Zahedan, 1,100 km (680 miles) southeast of Teheran, via Quetta in Pakistan.

Plan to cut spending deficit

US computer technology stolen

Bid to strengthen market position

US computer technology stolen

PARIS, May 18. (AP): The United States caught French spies last year who penetrated US computer firms, stole their secrets and fed them to a French manufacturer, a news magazine reported.

The report by the weekly L'Express, which goes on sale today, listed IBM and Texas Instruments among those penetrated two years ago by agents of the Direction Generale de la Securite Externe, or DGSE, the French external intelligence service.

L'Express reported its information had been corroborated on both sides of the Atlantic, but it didn't identify its sources.

The spies targeted French subsidiaries of the companies in 1987 and stole their technological secrets to boost the market position of the state-owned computer maker Compagnie des Machines Bull, the magazine reported.

The operation originated at a high level of the French government to protect Bull, which has experienced mounting losses in recent years, the magazine said.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation confronted the spies during a trip to the United States last year with details of meetings, stolen files and names of informants, L'Express reported.

A joint team of the FBI and the Central Intelligence Agency later visited Paris and informed French authorities of their findings, the magazine said. All the company informants were fired.

Washington refused to publicise the incident to avoid a diplomatic uproar, the magazine said, but high-tech exchanges between intelligence services of the two nations have since come to a standstill.

Call to end restrictive tax laws

US trade in the Gulf down

WASHINGTON, May 18. (Kun): The US Congress better grasps the message that restrictive US trade laws for American firms in the Arab Gulf mean large big losses of business to other countries like Britain and other competing nations, American executives said yesterday.

They noted American trade and presence in the region were down and that much remains to be done to persuade policymakers to end the restrictive practices.

David Stockwell, based in Dubai, and Daniel Tighe, stationed in Dharaan, are members of the American Business Council of the Gulf Countries (ABCBC).

But they stressed they represented only themselves and the general proposition that US trade should be increased.

At a press conference and slide presentation at the US Chamber of Commerce, the two American businessmen left little doubt about the negative economic impact to the US of the foreign earned income tax.

They said the US was the only nation on earth that taxes its citizens outside its own borders; that factor alone discourages Americans from working in the GCC states.

In 1982 the US had 17 per cent of GCC business, a figure which by 1989 had dropped to just 13 per cent, Tighe and Stockwell remarked.

They charged that the US tax on unearned income was "partially responsible" for the decline.

Two-way trade last year was \$22 billion, only a small portion of what it could be minus the disincentives, they added.

They stressed that American's global competitors laboured under that tax or other strictures like the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA) which they called "a key US-imposed trade disincentive in the region."

The American executives underscored the key importance of the Gulf nations, noting these countries possess 137 years worth of oil reserves while the US has about 10 years, the USSR 15 and the European Economic Community (EEC) 14 years.

Stockwell and Tighe said they also were dealing with standards for the Gulf region, pointing out that the Businessmen's Council was still consulting with Saudi Arabia to devise industrial and other standards that could be applied throughout the Gulf.

Specifically, they are urging that Congressmen support H.R. 4329, a resolution that would help

universalise standards and allow the highest-quality US goods into the Arab Gulf.

The two business experts were confident that after they talked to "hundreds of people" the measure would pass this week.

They said, as well, that an American specialist now would be stationed permanently in the region to tackle questions about consistent standards. Too, a liaison of the ABCBC would be here full time to answer trade and related questions.

On the mammoth, watershed British sale of Tornado jet interceptors to Saudi Arabia, which came after the Congress defeated administration efforts to sell F-15s to the kingdom, Tighe said.

"We don't think people ought to forget that there was a sale that could amount to \$100 billion that went somewhere else with no controls whatsoever. These guys (Congressmen) are trying to balance the budget with extraordinary problems ahead of them and we think an initial outlay in the sale alone (not including large support contracts) is close to \$30 billion alone."

He added drily, "Now tell me that that's not going to do something to somebody's budget."

And Tighe went on to say, "We are not going to simply let people say, 'Okay, forget it' -- we're going to say, look, you have made (British Prime Minister) Margaret Thatcher very happy. Look what you've done. Wasn't that nice of you guys?"

They said they had gotten "some very, very interesting responses" from the Congressmen and their staffs, "most of them positive."

Where in 1986 there were only 25 contacts with Congressmen or their key staff members, in 1988 there were 106 and the number has risen sharply since then, Tighe and Stockwell asserted.

Asked by Kuna if people in key defence industry states like California were kept abreast of their lobbying activities in Washington, the two executives said they had been.

Significantly, Tighe and Stockwell said they planned even to meet with AIPAC, Israel's highly-influential and politically-feared Congressional lobby.

They wanted to try convincing AIPAC officials that working to defeat transactions like the F-15 sale worked against Israel and the US they added.

Concluding, Stockwell said, "We will be back next year and the following years to make sure that the message was clearly received."

WORLD STOCK ROUNDUP

TOKYO, May 18. (Reuters): Concern that interest rates may stay high made it hard for the market to shake off four-day doldrums. The Nikkei index lost 47.88 to 32,013.72.

SYDNEY: Bank and insurance shares fell on Thursday's interim bank results. The All Ordinaries index fell 3.4 to 1,478.

HONG KONG: Stocks ended firmer after closing lower and then rebounding on technical factors and positive political news. The Hang Seng index closed 8.26 up at 2,925.89.

SINGAPORE: A surge of foreign buying sent the Straits Times index up 23.97 to 1,552.88.

BOMBAY: Institutional buying countered fears of Indo-Pakistani conflict over Kashmir. The Bombay Stock Exchange index lost 3.34 points to 767.02.

World Bank loan for India

WORLD STOCK ROUNDUP

THE COURSE

The course is given in ENGLISH or ARABIC or IN BOTH.

★ Introduction to Computer ★ Data Entry

★ Keyboarding (English & Arabic) ★ Word Processing (English & Arabic)

★ Other Computer Applications, including DBASE III + LOTUS 123

★ Introduction to Systems Analysis

★ Computer Programming, Theory and Practice, using BASIC

★ Computer Programming, Theory and Practice, using COBOL

Strategy to restore value to the zloty

Eastern Europe starts speeding up pace of currency reform

LONDON, May 18. (Reuters): Reformist policy-makers in Eastern Europe, desperate to attract foreign investment and put trade on a new international footing, are speeding up plans to make their practically worthless currencies acceptable in the West.

Hungary and Czechoslovakia both signalled this week that currency convertibility was a top priority in new economic reform programmes, following the lead of Poland whose shock therapy was based on a strategy to restore value to the zloty.

Even the Soviet Union, where debate over economic reforms has split Kremlin policy-makers, is being pushed down the road to convertibility by disintegration of the old communist pattern of trade based on barter and

national rouble exchange rates.

"The Poles took a gamble freeing up their exchange rate but it has taken the pressure off the economy," said Ingrid Iversen, economist at American Express Bank in New York.

"It can serve as a good model for moving to convertibility."

For decades under communism, currencies in Soviet bloc nations bore little relationship to supply and demand for heavily subsidised goods in the domestic market and exchange rates were way out of line with international trade. It was often a crime to take money out of the country or hold dollars.

But, as the old systems are swept away, policy-makers have quickly become convinced that they can

successful transition to Western-style free markets must be currency reform. Two major factors have spurred Eastern Europe into action:

■ The Soviet-led trading group Comecon, the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance set up in 1949 as an alternative to the post-war Marshall plan era in the West, is crumbling. Trade within Eastern Europe, which was once based on barter and a national unit of account, the "transferrable rouble," is increasingly shifting to hard Western currency.

■ East European nations are finding that much-needed Western investment is being hampered by businessmen's fears that their capital cannot be freely taken back out of the country.

"You can only attract investment if

there are easy conditions for taking capital out again," said Paul Hare, economics professor at Heriot Watt University in Edinburgh.

Budapest and Prague signalled their intentions this week.

Hungary's Finance Minister Designate, Ferenc Rabar, said on Thursday he expected to make the forint convertible by 1992, earlier than a three-year timetable put forward by leading economists before March and April's elections.

And Czechoslovakia's Deputy Prime Minister, Vladimir Dlouhy, announced on Monday that he hoped to make the crown convertible early next year with "all the risks that will involve."

Although nations such as Hungary have been tinkering with currency reform for years, it is Poland's Solidarity-led government which has made the running with its hard hitting reform programme introduced on January 1 this year.

In an essential first phase — economists call it "domestic convertibility" — the zloty was devalued to what authorities saw as a realistic rate and many prices freed from subsidies.

In a second stage, called "current account convertibility," the Polish government pledged to make foreign exchange available to companies for trade and backed up the promise with a \$1 billion boost to reserves funded by Western governments.

Poland has yet to advance to a third stage or "full convertibility" as in industrial countries where individuals have free access to currency and there are no capital controls.

Economists believe few

East European nations will manage this

before the end of the decade as they struggle with huge structural problems left over from the communist era.

But they do predict the new democratic legitimacy being conferred on governments in Hungary and Czechoslovakia will enable authorities to take tough decisions necessary to put their trade on a limited convertible basis relatively quickly.

The Soviet Union, however, presents a very different picture and a growing dilemma for President Mikail Gorbachev.

Unpopularity at home makes it difficult for Gorbachev to introduce price reforms in a move to a convertible route. But at the same time, the disintegration of Comecon system is forcing Moscow to trade in convertible currencies.

Poland, after negotiations with Moscow, announced on Thursday it would switch its trade with the Soviet Union to hard currencies at world prices from January 1 next year.

The same is true for trade with West Germany where the issue has been forced by Bonn and East Berlin's agreement to replace the East German currency with the West German mark from July 1.

Third World increases bank deposits

BASEL, Switzerland, May 18. (Reuters): Third World countries, led by Taiwan and China, substantially increased their deposits in commercial banks of the industrialised nations, according to a survey of the fourth quarter of 1989.

The survey, compiled by the Basel-based Bank for International Settlements and released today, said new deposits by non-Opec Third World countries rose by \$14.6 billion while claims on them by the reporting banks dropped by \$4.7 billion.

It said Taiwanese deposits went up by \$3.7 billion and that the country had repaid \$1.9 billion worth of earlier loans.

China eliminated its net debtor position after adding a further 3.5 billion to its deposits. Malaysia's deposits with the banks reporting to BIS went up by \$1.3 billion, described in the survey as another significant increase.

Identified claims on Latin American countries, which have declined continuously since 1987, fell by a further \$3.2 billion. Claims on Brazil and Argentina contracted by 2.2 billion and \$1.4 billion respectively, partly as a result of write-offs and debt conversion programmes.

Deposits by members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries increased by \$7.2 billion after declining by \$6.8 billion in the previous quarter. At the same time, claims on Opec countries rose by \$5.7 billion.

New credits extended by commercial banks to Eastern Europe in the fourth quarter totalled \$2 billion, a pace unchanged from the previous three months. New claims increased by \$800 million each for the Soviet Union and East Germany which at the same time withdrew \$500 million worth of its deposits.

The survey is based on data reported by banks in the group of ten leading industrialised countries plus banks in Luxembourg, Austria, Denmark, Finland, Ireland, Norway, Spain, Bahamas, Bahrain, Cayman Islands, Hong Kong, Netherlands Antilles and Singapore as well as branches of US banks in Panama.

The BIS estimated that net international bank lending during the last three months of 1989 totalled \$100 billion, twice the amount for the same quarter a year ago.

Turkey's trade with E. Europe on the rise

ANKARA, May 18. (Reuters): Turkey's trade volume with East European countries rose 38.4 per cent in the first two months of 1990 following increased Turkish loans and intense promotion activity, the State Institute of Statistics said.

Turkish exports mainly consist of goods to East European countries, rose to \$165 million in January-February 1990 from \$124.9 million in the same 1989 period, a 32.1 per cent increase, it said.

Imports, mainly raw materials, from Eastern Europe rose 43.5 per cent to \$224.7 million from \$156.6 million.

Turkey plans to increase its share in East European markets by boosting total exports which fell by 0.3 per cent in 1989 from the previous year, officials said.

Turkey's Eximbank last week gave Romania an export credit of \$50 million and has offered similar loans to Hungary and Poland. It gave consumer credits totalling \$300 million to the Soviet Union in 1989.

The bank is expected to sign an agreement with the Soviet Union in the next few months for a fresh credit of \$350 million to finance construction projects undertaken by Turkis firms, bank officials said.

Turkish exports to Eastern Europe rose to \$947 million in 1989 from \$554 million a year ago, while imports went up to \$1.1 billion last year from \$870 million in 1988.

Jobless rate expected to rise rapidly in the East

Treaty to merge two German economies

BONN, May 18. (Reuters): East Germany gave up economic and financial sovereignty today when it signed a treaty to merge its economy with West Germany's, the first step to full political unity.

Under the agreement, which comes into force on July 1, West Germany's powerful mark and capitalist free-market laws will be introduced in East Germany.

Here are some facts about the united German economy, using West German data and less reliable East German statistics:

Economic power:

West Germany is already Europe's biggest economy and the world's third largest. But a united Germany will only rival the US and Japan as the world's biggest industrial powers once East German living standards rise considerably.

West Germany had a 1989 gross national product of 1.769 trillion marks (\$1.087 trillion), easily dwarfing East German

national income — a narrower definition of economic growth — of 353 billion marks (\$215 billion).

Trade:

West Germany in 1989 took over Japan's position of recording the world's largest trade surplus, with 135 billion marks (\$82 billion) overshoot.

Most of East Germany's trade is conducted with the centralised economies of Eastern Europe in the non-convertible "transferrable rouble" — a national unit of account which forms the basis of trade within the Comecon group set up under the Soviet Union's leadership in 1949. As a result, a united Germany will have a commanding trade position in the East bloc.

Industry:

East and West German industry, seen as showpieces in their respective economic blocs, both specialise in engineering, cars, electronics and chemicals.

East German industry is

antiquated by Western standards and heavily overmanned, employing around 40 per cent of the country's workforce compared with only 25 per cent in West Germany. East Germany's service sector is much less developed than West Germany's.

Labour market:

A united Germany will have a work force of about 36 million people. Of a total population of 77.7 million, roughly 60 million are in what is now West Germany.

Unemployment, currently around two million in West Germany, is expected to rise rapidly in the East to nearly the same number as inefficient firms go bankrupt. Figures released on Tuesday in East Berlin by the newly founded association for the unemployed showed the number of jobless in East Germany has soared to over 100,000 — more than triple the total in March.

Investors Forum to host special meeting

Ajit Singh, Gujral to attend NRI seminar

THE two member delegation comprising Abhay Mehta, Chairman, 3rd Gulf NRI Seminar Organising Committee and R.P. Singh, first secretary, Indian embassy, Kuwait recently after a successful visit to finalise various arrangements.

Delhi response has been very encouraging both from the government as well as trade sectors, according to Abhay Mehta, the official spokesman.

Industry Minister, Ajit Singh and External Affairs Minister, I.K. Gujral have already confirmed their acceptance to be the special guests at the seminar, which will be held between 4th to 6th July, 1990 at Taj Palace Hotel, New Delhi.

It is expected that the Indian Prime Minister, V.P. Singh will grace the seminar on the concluding day, but not on the opening day due to other prior commitments.

The delegation also called on the Finance Minister, Madhu Dandavate to apprise him about the planned seminar and NRI Investors Forum's activities. The Forum has requested the finance minister to inaugurate the seminar.

The delegation also met a number of senior Indian government officials especially in the finance, external affairs and commerce ministries. Most of the senior government officers who have been invited to the seminar, have confirmed their participation.

The delegation held discussions with the chairman, FICCI and chairman, ASSOCHEM about the proposed seminar as well as other areas for co-operation between the NRI community and Indian bodies. It is expected that several members from both these federations will be present at the seminar.

American trade gap climbs

WASHINGTON, May 18. (Reuters): The US trade deficit climbed a sharp 39 per cent in March as imports surged, more than offsetting a record level of exports, the Commerce Department said yesterday.

The wider deficit wiped out a sharp drop in the February gap, economists said the trade picture was more encouraging than it appeared because strong overseas growth was helping exports.

A rising tide lifts all ships and our exports are doing extremely well overseas," Allen Sinai, chief economist with the Boston Co. in New York.

The delegation is expected to attend the seminar as well as members of all Indian associations are requested to attend. A detailed presentation on the seminar arrangements and subsidised rates applicable will be made at this meeting.

in the deficit in trade with the rest of the world this year because of increasing sales abroad.

"I expect that we will see the trade deficit break \$100 billion this year," Commerce Secretary Robert Mosbacher said in a statement.

That would be steady progress from a record \$152 billion deficit in 1987, \$118.5 billion in 1988 and \$109 billion last year. The deficit has exceeded \$100 billion every year since 1983, when it was \$52.4 billion.

The rise in America's trade deficit is mainly due to a special slowdown in the services sector, particularly in the financial and insurance industries.

"The key question is whether all this holds up for the rest of 1990," said Hinshaw Lewis, the industry group's vice-president of international economic affairs.

He noted that the Japanese yen has fallen about six per cent in value, which makes Japan's goods cheaper for Americans.

The US deficit with Japan — troublesome politically as well as in economic terms — grew in March to \$3.62 billion from \$3.12 billion in February.

The March trade gap widened to a seasonally adjusted \$8.45 billion, overshooting a 3.6 per cent improvement in February, when the deficit fell in a revised \$6.1 billion the lowest since December 1983.

Exports rose a healthy 4.6 per cent to a record \$33.28 billion showing that US manufacturers are benefiting from strong foreign demand for American goods.

America's total import bill rose 10 per cent to \$41.72 billion in March in the biggest surge since September 1985. The Bush administration predicted major improvement

in the deficit in trade with the rest of the world this year because of increasing sales abroad.

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Speaking to provincial officials in Tehran, he told them to "move according to the conditions of the time, and create an economic-political balance in

for the flagging economy.

As a result, he has been under attack by a rival anti-Western radical camp, led by former Interior Minister Ali Akbar Mohtashemi and Ahmad Khomeini, son of the late Revolutionary patriarch, Ayatollah Khomeini.

The radicals fear that relations with the West would compromise the "neither East nor West" principle laid down by Khomeini to preserve Iran's neutrality vis-a-vis the superpowers, and spell the end of the revolution.

Ahmad, who holds no official position in the government but wields considerable influence as the late Khomeini's only surviving son, Wednesday called on the government to clarify its policy toward the West.

Rafsanjani's rivals have accused him of giving in to the West by gaining release of two American hostages last month from their pro-Iranian captors.

Banks move to protect currencies

SANA'A, May 18. (Reuters): The central banks of North and South Yemen, preparing for the merging of the two countries, agreed yesterday to protect their currencies from a looming black market.

Both banks recently devalued their currencies nearly 24 per cent with the new exchange rate for the US dollar fixed at 12 North Yemeni rials and 0.461 South Yemeni dinars.

But traders said yesterday the dollar's value against the rial on the black market was still 33 per cent higher than the official rate.

Rohad Sana'a said the two central banks agreed to "take all necessary measures to defend their exchange rates against other currencies and fix those rates through tightening monetary controls... and intensifying steps against smuggling."

A huge smuggling operation, controlled by tribesmen in the North, is one of the problems facing the two Yemens as they prepare to merge later this month after 300 years as separate states.

Bankers and economists say the black market trade with neighbouring oil-rich Saudi Arabia is worth around \$2 billion a year and supplies most of North Yemen's private sector needs.

The delegation, consisting of members of the major industries, was pleased to meet the delegation and expressed satisfaction with the apparently improving trade picture but sounded a note of caution.

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for the flagging economy.

EVENTS



Premeela Surendran and Balram Chowdhry performing a semi-classical number.

Narthana turns 6

Narthana celebrated sixth anniversary by organising Parent's Day with a dance and music night at the Indian embassy hall recently. About 500 people attended the programme.

The programme was inaugurated by Prema Mohan, the mother of the senior-most student (first student) of Narthana Kumari Ranjini Mohan.

Narthana started with only two students to learn Bharathanatyam and Mohiniyattam later on was able to train more than 200 students. At present about 60 students are regularly getting their dance coaching from Premeela Surendran.

The programme was followed by 10 dance items Bharathanatyam, Mohiniyattam and folk numbers. Second part of the programme was a music concert lead by prominent singers Sunny and Sasi. Also Saraswathy Appukuttan Sunny, a classical Keerthanam and Kumar Sabharwal Appukuttan and Sahyan Appukuttan also sang some songs.

M. T. Abraham distributed the prizes. Later Premeela wished all the best for Narthana's outgoing students Geetha Philip and Sindhu Appukuttan.



Young talents.



The inauguration — lighting the traditional lamp.



Gautha Philip — first dance in the programme.

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Gallery Dahiyat

Abdullah Al Salem
THE Sixth Arab Children's art show will be held at the Dahiyat Abdullah Al Salem Gallery, near Fatima Mosque, from May 12 to 21. The paintings and drawings of children from several Arab and Gulf countries will be on show. It will be open from 9 am to 12 noon and 3 to 7 pm, except weekends.

SOCIAL

Indian Arts Circle
HERE'S good news for lovers of one-act plays. A wide variety of one-act plays to reach as wide an audience as possible is going to be staged from 17th to 31st May 1990 at the IAC auditorium for the 2nd IAC One Act Play Competition. After the roaring success of the 1st One Act Play Competition, 16 teams are plannin to perform plays in languages ranging from Malayalam to Marathi. The inaugural offering is a Konkani play at 8 pm on the 17th May. Watch out for further information in this column.

Probabil Essay Competition

THE Association of Pakistani Professionals and Businessmen has again extended the last date of its essay competition for April 15 to May 31, 1990. The date has been extended at the popular demand because many interested students were unable to participate in the competition due to the examinations and later due to the beginning of the holy month of Ramadan.

The essay competition on the topic *My role in building a better Pakistan* is being held on the occasion of the Golden Jubilee celebrations of the Pakistan resolution. Pakistani students in the age group of between 12-14 (juniors) and 15-18 (seniors) are invited to write their essays in Urdu or English, which should be between 1,000 to 1,500 words.

Four prizes of KD100 each (2 each for Urdu and English) will be awarded to the best articles in each group with other consolation prizes for deserving participants. The panel of judges includes: Dr M. I. Saleem, Dr Ali Jaffrey and Abdus Sattar Ghazali.

Essays may be mailed to Probabil, P.O. Box 2351, Salma, Kuwait, 22024. For further details, contact: 2425315, Fax: 5323751.

Tamil drama

IAC presents a hilarious Tamil comedy by "Entibusias," after their last year's roaring success of *Unnaiye Umm Vilai Enna*. Programme is at IAC hall on May 25, 1990 at 7.00 pm.

For entry passes contact 3904817, 5616930, 48894874 and 3903879.

Crazy Thieves

IAC presents a full length hilarious Tamil comedy drama "Crazy Thieves" directed by C. K. V. Raman, on May 25, 1990 at 7.00 pm at their auditorium in Funaites. For passes please contact on 3904817, 5616930, 48894874 and 3903879. Vantage seats can be reserved for yellow and white passes only on May 23 and 24, 1990 from 6.00pm to 8.30pm at IAC office in Funaites.

Polish Charity Concert

THE Polish Charity Concert will take place on Wednesday, May 16, and Thursday, May 24, 8pm, at the Mousetrap Theatre (New English School, Jabiya). Polish and Yugoslavian musicians will perform in rich selection of classical music, including Chopin, Schubert, Brahms etc. In addition, a light-and-sound-show — Faces of the Desert, with electronic music, composed by Mark Bilinski and Video-rama Jack Wozniak will be shown. Tickets for KD5 can be bought daily from 4-6 pm at the Mousetrap Theatre box office. For telephone bookings call 2667624; 4747879.

Yoga lessons

For fitness and slimming Kuwait International Hotel offers yoga lessons for ladies and men, every Sunday and Tuesday from 8.00 pm to 9.00 pm and on Friday from 10.30 am to 11.30 am. For more information contact Kuwait International's Recreation Department at 2530000 ext 8050 or Tanya at 5626529.

Indian Cuisine Centre

Indian art of fancied lac banigies and designable henna work comes live at the finest Indian cuisine centre of Kuwait at the Maharaja Palace Restaurant.

Come savour the delicacies whilst giving your lady a gift to cherish. For more information contact 2406150.

Kalpek celebrates 1st anniversary

Kerala Arts & Literature Promoting Association of Kuwait celebrates its 1st anniversary at Indian embassy auditorium on Friday, May 25, 1990 at 5.00 pm.

A variety show will be held following the function to mark the anniversary celebrations.

Crazy Thieves

IAC presents full length hilarious Tamil comedy drama "Crazy Thieves" directed by C. K. V. Raman, on May 25, 1990 at 7.00 pm at their auditorium in Funaites. For passes please contact on 3904817, 5616930, 48894874 and 3903879. Vantage seats can be reserved for yellow and white passes only on May 23 and 24, 1990 from 6.00pm to 8.30pm at IAC office in Funaites.

NRI Update

THE NRI Investors Forum meeting in Indian embassy auditorium at 11.00 am on Friday, May 25, 1990. Up-to-date reporting on forthcoming Third Gulf NRI Conference in New Delhi. All Indians cordially invited.

Kuwait Welsh Society

THE annual general meeting and social evening will be held at 8pm on May 23, 1990. For details of venue etc., please ring 3912384, 3713467 or 5740256.

Newcomers welcome.

Filcheck Inter-commercial Chess Tournament

THE Filipino Chess Club in Kuwait (Filcheck) is now accepting entries for this year's Inter-Commercial Team Chess Tournament wherein each participating team will be composed of four regular players and two alternates. Group A rated players are qualified to play Boards 1 and 2 while Group B players will man Boards 3 and 4 with both groups having one alternate each. Non-Filcheck members can also be fielded but will have to take a series of tests to determine their individual rating.

The tournament is open to all Filipino chess enthusiasts. Entry forms are now available at the Filcheck headquarters at the new Kabayan Restaurant and the deadline for the submission of entries is on Friday, May 25, 1990. Opening ceremonies will be held on June 8, 1990 at the Messilah Beach Club during the Pre-Independence Day celebration being organised by the Philippine embassy.

For more details, please call Filcheck Headquarters at Tel. 240-2405.

Santacruza sa Nayon

THE newly-inaugurated Cafe' Maharika, owned and managed by two budding Filipino entrepreneurs — Rene Olizon and Larry Gallardo will hold the traditional "Santacruza sa Nayon" on May 25. This will be a sort of beauty tilt searching for the most beautiful "Reyna Elena".

For contest particulars, anyone who's interested can contact either Rene or Larry at Cafe' Maharika located at Fahd Al Salem Street, Kuwait City, between Hardees and Souq Al Mutahha.

Boushahri Gallery

AN exhibition of paintings by eight Arab artists will be held at the Boushahri Gallery, North Salmyia Bldg, Salem Al Mubarak St., from May 7. The month-long exhibition is being held under the patronage of Dr Hassan Ali Ibrahim. Some of the artists who will exhibit their works include Jaafar Islah, Jaafar Kaki, Rashed Oiyah, Dia Al Azawi and Saleh Jameci. It will be open to the public for a month. Timings: 9 am to 12.30 noon and 4 to 7.30 pm.

Contact

THE last meeting of Contact, the Ladies Information Group, will be held on Saturday May 26, at 10 am at the Messilah Beach Hotel. Newcomers particularly welcome. For more information call 4874513 or 5388105.

NRI Update

THE NRI Investors Forum meeting in Indian embassy auditorium at 11.00 am on Friday, May 25, 1990. Up-to-date reporting on forthcoming Third Gulf NRI Conference in New Delhi. All Indians cordially invited.

Windsurfing

ALL are welcome to the Messilah Beach Hotel open

Summer Affair '90

"Summer Affair '90" which had been postponed, will now be held on Thursday, May 24, 1990, at the Regency Palace Hotel. Highlights will be the selection and crowning of the 1990 Summer Queen and Miss Kodak. Passes held by guests are still valid. For reservations, please contact 5624111 ext. 739.

HOTELS

Guardian Angel Club

The Guardian Angel Club take great pleasure in announcing their Konkani drama entitled "Ostrocorebo Mog" (Woman's Love) directed by Remmick J. Colaco, on June 8, 1990, at the IAC, Goan Charlie Chaplin — Jancito Vaz, Ophelia, H. Britton and Seby Coutinho are among the other well known Goan cast.

Pakistan Arts Circle

THE executive committee of the Pakistan Arts Circle has the pleasure to announce its forthcoming programme, to be held on June 7, 1990, at 8.00 pm at the Sharq hall.

For further information, please contact Hamid Mahmoud Tel. 4716258, Salman Shah 4769520 and M. K. Kidwai 4312016.

Kuwait players

KUWAIT Players presents A Room Full of Foreigners from May 28 to May 31 at the U.S.A. — Salwa — at 8.00 pm. For reservations phone 5321294 or 5615357.

Saligaoars

CALLING all Saligaoars... to respond to the call for a social gathering on May 25 at Ramada Al Salam, at 11.30 am. For details contact the following: Justine Fernandes on Tel No. 2406936 (Res), Alnoor Carvalho, 2411442 Res. 3986469 and Paul D'Cruz, Res. 2447429, Tony Cordeiro off, 2415401, Res. 2412337.

Konkani non-stop show

A Konkani non-stop show entitled Koxtt Ani Santos (Hardships & Happiness), written and directed by Epa de Utorda, organised by Ujorda Lourdes. Boys will be staged on July 6, 1990 at 3.30 pm. Venue: Labour Union Hall, Maidan Hawalli. For more information contact 4817857.

SPORTS

United Goans Centre

MAY 24, 1990: United Goans Centre takes pleasure to announce to all the Kiff affiliated clubs, their 12th Football League Tournament to be held during the last week of June at the Sour grounds. Draws will be held on the May 24, 1990 at 5pm sharp in the Indian Ceasers Restaurant. Contact the organisers for further details.

Windsurfing

ALL are welcome to the Messilah Beach Hotel open

windsurfing event on Friday, May 25, 1990.

Prizes for experienced, novice and lady windsurfers. Entry fee is KD3. Maximum sail size ID 7.5 square metres. For further information please call 5624111 ext. 739.

HOTELS

Meridian Hotel

INDONESIAN CORNER: Enjoy Indonesian cuisine every Wednesday night at La Brasserie.

In addition to our daily lavish buffet our chef will prepare Indonesian specialities in front of you.

JAZZ NIGHT: Enjoy New Orleans atmosphere with jazz and seafood specialities every Thursday in La Brasserie restaurant.

JOYFUL NIGHT: Enjoy a typical Oriental buffet lunch with Oriental organist every Friday in La Brasserie.

VERSAILLES: Take advantage of our great value business lunch including starter, main course, dessert and coffee.

FOR DINNER: Enjoy relaxing atmosphere provided by our resident artiste and finest cuisine with a la carte menu featuring chef specialities as fish or beef "fondue", grilled beef or "brassere", ham-mour and salmon or "shrigle" and many others.

Kuwait Sheraton

RICCARDO Restaurant: The Riccardo restaurant with its famous Italian cuisine will be open for lunch and live entertainment with "Franco and Reina" every night. Meridian Kuwait

THAI CORNER: Enjoy Thai cuisine every Saturday night at La Brasserie. In addition to our daily lavish buffet our chef will prepare Thai specialities in front of you.

COWBOY NIGHT: Every Sunday enjoy live country music, Western decor and hearty ranch food: prime ribs, burgers, tacos and great desserts including mom's apple pie. Join us at La Brasserie for a real country hoedown.

MESSILAH BEACH HOTEL

Al Mubarakia restaurant: The only 24-hour restaurant/coffee shop in Kuwait. Open daily for breakfast, lunch and dinner or any time for refreshments and snacks.

WEDNESDAYS — special seafood promotions: Starting 7 pm with a selection of your favourite fish dishes prepared to your liking in the relaxed atmosphere decorated with that maritime touch and live background music.

FRIDAYS — special buffet: A go go with a large variety of Middle Eastern and Continental dishes.

BBQ: Every Thursday night in Al Berdounesh the Beach Garden Restaurant offering Lebanese mezzas, grills, fresh salads.

BBC world service highlights

Preservation or progress?

Last year leading British actors and actresses joined the protest against the redevelopment of London's Rose Theatre where Shakespeare is thought to have performed. Conservation has always been an uphill struggle against the demands of progress even in Britain which has been linked to a great historical and archaeological site. *Preservation or Progress?* tries to discover whether it is possible to protect monuments of the past and construct modern day buildings and businesses.

Friday, May 25 at 10.30 and 15.15.

The Ultimate Invention

Simon Callow and Alan Bennett star in Oon Haworth's play which is set in the 19th century. Grand Duke Alexander has cash flow problems, his duchy is bankrupt, and rich, single princesses are none too keen to marry impoverished grand dukes. What can be done? Alexander decides to entrust his future to an inventor whose latest masterpiece will hopefully restore the duchy's fortune.

Sunday, May 20 at 12.45, Monday, May 21 at 22.45 and Friday, May 25 at 16.30.

Recommended frequencies are: 17.4MHz/17.101m; 15.07MHz/19.91m; 11.76MHz/25.51m.

children

6.30 Take Hart — Mixing colours in water... Colours reflection on water...

BECOMING — By Dean Young & Stan Drake



NAGAR THE HORRIBLE — By Dik Browne



MISTER GRUMM — By Bill Hoest



BEETLE BAILEY — By Mort Walker



THE WIZARD OF ID — By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart



ANDY CAPP



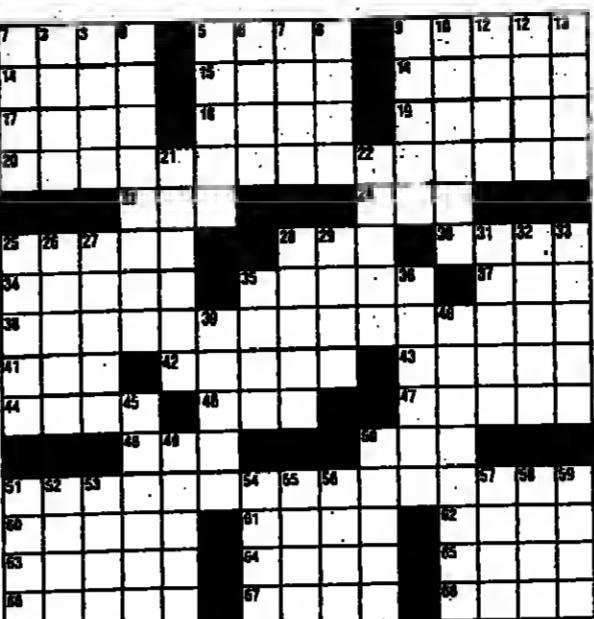
B.C. — By Johnny Hart



HE-MAN — By G. Fenton & J. Shull



TODAY'S CROSSWORD



ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♦J10652 ♠Q85 ♣72 ♠A83 Partner opens the bidding with a demand bid of two hearts. What do you respond?

A.—When partner opens with a forcing two-bid, odds are he has a long, strong suit. With such good support, don't waste time putting around with the spade suit. Bid three hearts, to set the trump suit and allow for the orderly investigation of slam.

Q.2—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♦KQ9 ♠AQ7 ♣9872 ♠AQ7 Partner opens the bidding with one diamond. What do you respond?

A.—There's a textbook response when you hold a balanced 16-18 points and no ruffing value, i.e., a 4-3-3-3 hand pattern. Jump to three no trump.

Q.3—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♦AKQ1085 ♠QJ93 ♠AQ8 ♠Void Partner opens the bidding with one club. What do you respond?

A.—There are two ways to treat this hand—either an immediate jump shift to two spades, or a simple one-spade response, with the intention of jumping in diamonds on the next round. Since your spade suit is almost self-sufficient, we lean toward the immediate jump shift.

Q.4—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♦AJ108763 ♠Q55 ♠AKJ8 ♠Void The bidding has proceeded:

A.—Since you are likely to get a diamond lead, you need next to nothing from partner to make game. Our gut feeling is to jump to four spades, but we don't mind a slightly conservative three spades.

The latter action virtually guarantees nine tricks in hand, and partner should raise to game with any key card.



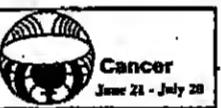
ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

MESH	AGNEW	SHUN
ARI	GOU	DACANE
MARSHALL	LISLANDS	ATE
ATL	ATALE	ARGOT
STEN	DDE	
GENIES	TENDERE	
ATDOP	PEACE	DIM
MARSHAL	SERVICE	
UPS	DVATE	ACHE
TEE	PITY	PESTER
SID	SERE	
ASPEN	ESTER	LEA
GEORGE	CMARSHALL	
ECRU	CHUTE	URAL
STEM	TOTED	MANY

YOUR STARS



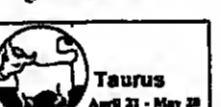
The more you do your own the surer you will be that it is done properly. You should do all you can to avoid making matters more difficult for yourself. Beware of eating too many sweet or savoury things. Be accurate.



There will be some moments of uncertainty but you will be able to triumph over them if you make the effort. Do not try to find excuses for not doing what you know will have to be done sooner or later. Keep a promise you have made. Be tactful.



You should take a little better care of your health by not leading so sedentary a life and by eating a balanced diet. Good for you if you do not smoke, but are taking enough exercise? Show more goodwill towards others. Be tolerant.



Do not think you can have everything your own way, and do not even try to. Pay a little more attention to your personal appearance. Make sure you do not keep a friend whom you have arranged to meet waiting. Be civil.



Do not give up because what you are learning is proving more difficult than you thought. You will be able to make the right decision only if you consider all the alternatives. Avoid eating too many sweet things. Be considerate.



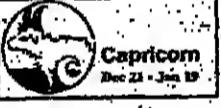
You should not expect to have your own way in all things, though you will get a lot of your own way. This is a good time to make a few changes but no changes should be made simply for their own sake. Beware of overspending. Be less aggressive.



You should not do things on the spur of the moment. Avoid drawing wrong conclusions or jumping to them and do not expect miracles. Whatever you do, two and two still make four. Be polite.



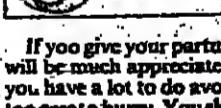
You will again be tempted to spend more than you can afford and must once again resist the temptation. Whilst there is no harm in an interest in history you should not dwell on the past. There is room for a bit more commonsense. Be pertinent.



A past experience will show you the way to avoid making a bad mistake. You should not permit yourself to get too tired, get plenty of rest, but do not become lazy. You will have something to be pleased about. Be less offhand.



You will be surprised by how much you enjoy reading a good book. You should do your utmost to avoid a misunderstanding. Keep your spirits high, do not allow any small setback to upset you. Be as proud of yourself as you should be.



If you give your partner a treat it will be much appreciated. Though you have a lot to do avoid being in too great a hurry. You should try to endear yourself to your partner by giving rise to a misunderstanding of causes offence. Be forgiving.



Erma speaks out: Part 3

Who killed Farouq?

By Ahmed Al Jarallah

Arab Times Editor-in-Chief

We met for lunch the next day. The atmosphere was right to revive nostalgic memories. Princess Erma is a beautiful Italian woman. I was curious to know what attracted the Italian beauty to the magic and mystery of the East.

When I put the question to her, she smiled and explained: "I believe in reincarnation. When I first met Farouq I felt he was no stranger. Perhaps, I knew him 3,000 years ago — in the Nile Valley or on the shores of the Black Sea. Maybe, we had been together way back in history. At last, we met in Rome."

Like Cleopatra stole Antonio when Caesar invaded the Nile Valley, Erma seemed to have avenged that incident in history. When I asked her about it, she laughed and quipped: "Cleopatra had captured two of our leaders; after Farouq, I'm waiting for the second."

Erma was brought up in high society. She said she comes from a princely family and her ancestors were kings. Some members of her family were patriarchs in the Catholic Church.

"The possibility of my marrying a Muslim gave rise to fears that I might change my religion," she explained.

The princess said Farouq did not leave any assets. "He only left great financial and moral burdens and commitments," she said.

Princess Erma had talked about Farouq's sadness but had never explained the reasons. I asked her to throw some light on the former Egyptian king's psychological state of mind.

She said: "He was deeply wounded when he boarded his yacht Mahrousa. His burden was heavier than the bags of jewels and clothes he carried. I was told he led a luxurious life in Egypt. His lifestyle was the subject of gossip."

Farouq was born under the sign of Pisces, which is characterized by instability. Princess Erma told me Farouq loved to travel to Naples and other places in Italy. He also admired natural beauty. Princess Erma's grandfather was hired by King Fadil of Egypt to look after the palace gardens.

The aroma of Italian cuisine wafted in the room. We were in a self-service restaurant where the chef prepares the food before the guests. After ordering lunch, I resumed our conversation.

The question foremost in my mind was who killed Farouq. Was he (murdered) by the intelligence during Nasser's time or was it the woman who was with him at the time of his death. I also wondered if he died a natural death.

"Police reports said Farouq died of brain haemorrhage," she said.

On that fateful day, Erma was in Monte Carlo waiting for Farouq's arrival when the news of his death was broken to her. She was greatly disturbed when she was told that he was in the company of another woman at the time of his death.

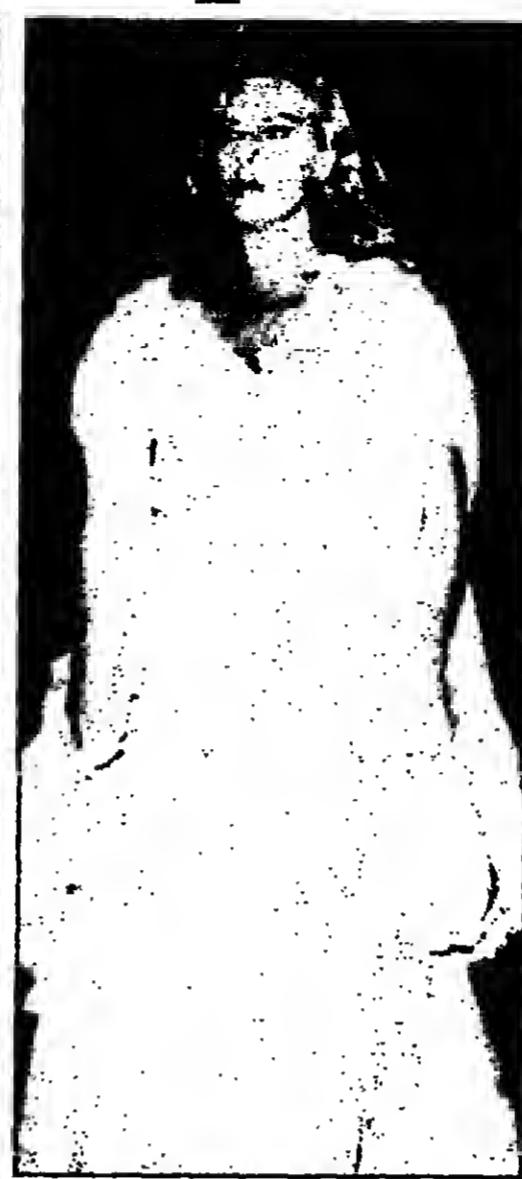
She recalled: "He told me to go to Monte Carlo and promised to follow me so that he could gamble in the casinos. He lied to me about his affairs with other women. I felt that he had got me out of the way to carry on with the other woman."



In the restaurant: Erma and Ahmed share nostalgic memories



Erma and Ahmed Al Jarallah: sharing history



Two faces of Erma (above and below) in her heyday



To be continued.



King Farouq: deeply wounded



Ahmed Al Jarallah and Erma: touring the city of Rome

Risk factors in ovarian cancer

By Karen Klinger

BOSTON, (UPI): Of the cancers that affect the female reproductive tract, ovarian cancer has the highest fatality rate, striking tens of thousands of women each year.

Doctors say it is so deadly because it works silently, often causing little more than vague symptoms such as back pain, fatigue and a sense of pelvic fullness until it has spread beyond the ovaries.

When the disease is diagnosed and treated early, a woman has more than a 90 per cent chance of surviving at least five years, a recent study found.

But when the cancer is discovered until it has spread past the pelvis, the outlook can be bleak. Overall, the five-year survival rate for ovarian cancer is only 38 per cent, said Dr. Steven Piver of the Rosewell Park Cancer Institute in Buffalo, New York.

In an attempt to get the word out about the risks and detection of ovarian cancer, Piver recently teamed up with actor Gene Wilder to create a series of public service messages scheduled to air nationwide on television stations for the next three months.

Until her death in May 1989, Wilder was married to the country's best known victim of ovarian cancer — comedian Gilda Radner, who died at the age of 42 after a three-year battle with the disease.

Although Radner had some typical early symptoms of the disorder, Piver said it took a year for doctors to diagnose what was wrong. By then, it was too late to save her.

Piver believes that if Radner's doctors had known that she had an unusual family history of ovarian cancer, they

would have ordered diagnostic tests that might have detected the disease while her chances for survival were still good.

In 1985, Piver treated one of Radner's first cousins for ovarian cancer. During the next four years, he discovered not only that Radner had the disease as well, but that her aunt and possibly, another cousin and a grandmother had died from it.

With that kind of family history, Piver said Radner's chances of developing the disease were many times the one-in-70 risk the average woman faces. He believes a woman who has two first-degree relatives with ovarian cancer — two sisters or a sister and a mother — has a 50 per cent chance of developing the disease herself.

The risk is not as great for women with affected relatives farther removed — such as cousins and aunts — but it still is much higher than normal, he said.

To track the cancer through families, Piver set up a computerized registry at Rosewell Park in 1981 with names of victims found to be related.

The registry was recently renamed the Gilda Radner Familial Ovarian Cancer Registry. It now contains names of nearly 1,000 women from about 400 families.

Piver encourages doctors to add names to the registry, as well as to check through it to see if a patient's relatives are listed.

Because the disease rarely strikes women under 35, Piver said those with a strong family history should undergo genetic counseling and start weighing their options in their 30s. By their early 30s, he said they should have manual pelvic examinations every six months and diagnostic blood and ultrasound tests once a year.

FAMILY DOCTOR By DR ALLAN BRUCKHEIM

Bony mass forms after injury to arm

QUESTION: Is there a condition where muscle turns into bone? A friend of mine had an X-ray of his arm, and there was a piece of bone seen that normally isn't there. The doctor says that the only way to treat it is to remove it with an operation, but wants to wait a while to see how big it's going to get. Is this right? Please help us.

ANSWER: The condition is known as "myositis ossificans," and it really isn't muscle turning into bone, although that is the meaning of these words, which come to us from Greek ("myo") means "muscle" and Latin ("ossificans" means "to make bone").

Actually the process begins with an injury, usually a contusion or strain, in which the muscle is torn, and blood collects in a clot called a "hematoma." The most common spot for these types of injuries is the thigh, followed by the mid-arm. The bone formation usually only occurs on severe injuries, and may also involve a clot infection after a respiratory infection. Slowly the clot is transformed into bone, possibly from bone cells that came from an injury to the covering of the bone (periosteum), which might have occurred at the same time. The bony mass keeps enlarging for as long as six or seven weeks, after which a process of resorption begins. Small masses may disappear completely, but when a large bone mass remains after a longer period of time, the only way to remove it is through surgery.

Interestingly enough there is another situation in which such bone growth may be seen, and it's called "drug user's elbow." Here the process starts with the injuries to muscles and surrounding tissues that have been caused by

the unskilled use of a needle that missed the vein and ripped the other tissues in the area. The brachialis of the upper arm is the muscle most commonly injured.

If your friend's doctor believes that his injury is recent, he is correct in waiting a bit to see what develops before attempting to remove abnormal bone.

QUESTION: While taking a good look inside my mouth after a morning brushing, I noticed what looks like a big white patch on my tongue. This is something new, and I'm wondering if I have anything to worry about.

ANSWER: A white spot on the tongue is a red flag you shouldn't ignore. Though very often the cause is a simple irritant such as alcohol, tobacco, spicy foods, or too-sharp teeth ("leukoplakia"), the name give to certain plaques or patches on the tongue, can also signal a vitamin A or B deficiency, syphilis, or mouth cancer. The plaques may be of different shapes or colors. They can be white, grey, yellow or speckled.

Before you assume the worst, banish alcohol, tobacco and spicy foods from your life; satisfy yourself that your teeth or dentures aren't scraping your tongue. And see your doctor as soon as possible about a biopsy, the best way to tell a dangerous plaque from a harmless one. By examining the tissues under a microscope, he or she can soon tell if it's serious or a relatively benign condition. If the patch is small, your doctor may be able to remove it surgically or cauterize it on the spot. No matter what the diagnosis, your physician probably will want you to have your tongue checked every three to six months, to be sure that all is well.

'Pardon my rudeness — I am in Japan'

By Clayton Jones

TOKYO, (CSM): "Pardon my rudeness," said the Japanese official, in the middle of my first interview in Tokyo, "but how old are you?"

"Why does it matter?" I responded, curious. The conversation could not go on until he knew my age.

"Because if you are older than me," he said, "then I must call you 'Mr Jones'."

Everyone in Japan, he told me, must clearly have a proper place, like rocks in a Zen garden, and one must know who is of higher or lower social status. Foreigners included.

One's note in the hierarchy is fixed by age, schooling, job, marriage partner, and even whether one owns a Louis Vuitton bag or, nowadays, a Van Gogh.

Fortunately for my interview, we were not of the same age. Otherwise, we would be equal social rank, and thus possibly become friends. And friends, as every Japanese knows, need not talk with each other always, subsisting instead on long, intuitive silences like two buddhas sitting back to back. The afternoon TV soaps, for instance, often show Japanese lovers just staring into space.

Beyond its exotic sights and world-class shopping, Japan can be summaizing for foreigners just for the exercise of learning how to relate to the Japanese, who extol themselves as unique among humanity.

They certainly treat foreigners uniquely: We resident aliens are fingerprinted. While gaijin (outside people) are given much leeway in Japan, they also face pressures to conform. Life in Tokyo is a lot like walking down a primerose path, but with an electric fence on either side. Take, for example, riding in a taxi.

The taxi door opens automatically with a lever mechanism controlled by the driver. How nice and convenient, you say. One never has to touch the door. And the driver wears white gloves, too. But then, once inside, only the driver can open the door, until you pay up.

Other first lessons in such comfy conformity are the proper way to present a business card (with as much ceremony as placing a ring on a bride's finger). And, if you are so inclined, you can learn the correct angles for bowing (i.e., higher status people receive lower bows).

A big hurdle is mastering a language that is loaded down with three alphabets and varies according to whether the lis-

tener is of higher or lower status. Content plays second fiddle to form.

Good relationships are more than just important; they are the core of being Japanese, probably due to a lack of many universal principles other than social harmony.

Why else would a country where there is no tipping also have the world's best service in hotels, restaurants, shops?

On the street, the Japanese wear blank faces, like a nation of zombies. But they're not really that cold. Rather, because they are such an emotional people, to look seriously into a stranger's eyes would require making a close bond. Better to keep a stony facade.

Getting on with the Japanese is not so easy for American trade negotiators, who have learned the hard way that "yes" often means "no," and that the Japanese win arguments simply by changing the argument — for the sake of harmony, of course.

But for the rest of us, Japan is a big, old-fashioned village of courteous people, covered over with a modern veneer of Italian business suits, bullet trains, Toshiba laptops, McDonald's res-

taurants, and Western democracy. My favorite new invention is a bed pillow with built-in speakers: to help you go to sleep, you can play either the chirp of frogs or the sound of a moving train.

For 120 years, Japan has rushed to appear civilized by adopting much from the West, without really absorbing it. European cars, for instance, are now quite popular, especially BMWs. But what really matters is that owning one helps boost prestige. Status is having a tan only on your left arm. Then everyone knows you drive a foreign car, which has a steering wheel on the left, unlike Japanese cars.

Tokyo itself is really just a collection of microcosm neighborhoods, with little order to help you find an address. Homes are packed as tight as pieces of sushi in a take-out box. When I once got lost in a small neighborhood, six people — including a man getting a haircut — rushed out to help me.

The city's bewildering maze of small streets, I suspect, was a major incentive for Japanese companies to perfect the fax machine. Now Tokyoites can quickly send someone a map of how to find their house presented with flowers.

Our neighbourhood, as everywhere in Japan, is filled with small shops, many selling the same goods. We have two toy stores, two tofu makers, two rice sellers, two butchers ... No one dares allow raw competition to disrupt this quaint feeling of a village. Every night the old man who sells hot sweet potato passes by, pulling his cart, singing out for customers. He looks the other way when he passes the Seven Eleven convenience stores.

To fit in, we have paid the obligatory visits to the local Buddhist temple and Shinto shrine, rung the bells and clapped our hands to the gods. This time of year, we join the throngs of party-goers and kimono-clad women who sit under the blooming cherry trees to watch pink petals drift away.

The ultimate test of fitting in comes at "crush hour." Shoving one's way on to the last square foot of space in an overcrowded subway train full of commuters takes grace and pressure. Japanese businessmen go at it like they do for market share.

I've studied the technique of Tokyo's dainty "office ladies." The trick is to walk backward through the door into the crowd. That way, you can't see the faces of those you must squash.

But then, as the door slams shut near your nose and everyone settles into his tiny place, you just say: "Pardon my rudeness."

What to know in Tokyo

● Transportation

Don't buy plane tickets in overregulated Japan. Do buy a big-bargain rail pass — before you arrive — from a US travel agent or contact the nearest Japan National Tourist Organization. Avoid expensive Tokyo taxis by mastering the subway; many directions are in English. Prepare for a long trip from Tokyo's Narita airport (90 minutes or more, if the traffic is heavy; taxi cost about \$100). Avoid national holidays. US citizens can get a visa on arrival.

● Food

For less-expensive dining, try stand-up soba-noodle shops or cheap sushi bars which serve from a countertop conveyor belt. Practice using chopsticks. Prepare to spend about \$30 a day for food. Avoid hiawfish.

● Language

Mastering just 50 words will surprisingly open doors, bring you meals,

and get a taxi to go where you want. Many young Japanese, especially in Tokyo, speak enough English for basic assistance.

● Lodging

Japan's version of the bed-and-breakfast is the "minshuku," a down-home experience found most anywhere outside of Tokyo. Remember to take off your shoes, duck the low doorways, and don't lather up in the public bath.

● Weather

Summers are sticky, winters frosty. Best times for nature viewing are early spring and late fall. Many say Mt Fuji is the climb. Prepare yourself for regular earth tremors in Tokyo and elsewhere.

● Guidebooks

"Tokyo Access," P.O. Box 30706, Los Angeles CA 90030; "Tokyo City Guide" (buy at big hotels); "Japan Handbook," Moon Publications, 772 Wall St., Chico, CA 95928.

Everything goes wrong when she's flying!

ACTRESS turned radio presenter Suzy Walton is an expert on travel — but she admits to being the worst traveller she knows.

Suzy, 27, flies to a different destination every two weeks. And although she loves to travel and would never give up her job, she says she is terrified of flying and claims to attract all types of disaster.

In the past three years that she has presented the networked LBC programme *The Travel Show*, she has been in a plane struck by lightning, survived two earthquakes and a hurricane and was in a lift when the cable snapped.

These incidents are now becoming so regular that colleagues refuse to travel with her. Suzy told me: "It's only since I've been doing this job that all these things happen."

"You could say the law of averages makes these things more likely to happen because of the amount of travelling I do. But there are businessmen I know who do much more travelling than me, and nothing strange has ever happened to them."

Suzy, who starred for three years in London's West End in the play *Children of a Lesser God*, went on: "It has become so bad now that whenever I do anything, I make sure nothing can go wrong."

"Right now we are in the middle of moving offices. I have five year's worth of travel tapes here. I know that if I put them in the removal van, something dreadful will happen."

"And whenever I get on a plane, the first thing I do is check under the seat to make sure the life-jacket is there. I always assume I'm going to need it."

"People laugh at me because I won't go in lifts and I hate the London Underground. I have always been afraid of flying and in my line of work I have to go on a plane every couple of weeks. I can't avoid it."

"When I fly, I'm a nervous wreck. I have to hold the hand of whoever is sitting next to me. And it doesn't get any easier. The more I travel, the worse it becomes because every time I go to another country, something awful seems to happen."

"I was flying back from Spain a few weeks ago and the plane flew through the only cloud in the sky and was hit by lightning. There were sparks coming out of the engines and for someone like me it was hair-raising."

Suzy explained her two experiences with earthquakes. One was in Acapulco, the other in California. She said: "When the Acapulco earthquake hit, I was staying in a room near the top of a high-rise hotel."

"I happened in the middle of the night. One minute I was asleep in bed, and the next I was lying on the floor and everything was shaking. I grabbed my passport and tape recorder and left the building."

After that, Suzy was worried about going to California. "I was convinced that if I went, the place would be hit by an earthquake. I arrived in California and the next day there was an earthquake!"

"As it was the second one I had been in, I knew the drill. You are supposed to stand in a doorway or crouch under a table. But that didn't make me feel any safer."

"I began to wonder if everything I worry about comes true. That is why, when I'm on a plane, I have to tell myself, 'Don't think about engines!'"

When Suzy was in a lift in Majorca recently, the cable snapped and the lift fell five floors. She told me: "It's one thing for a lift to get stuck, but a five-floor drop is enough to put you off lifts for life."

"I broke my finger in the fall and didn't



Suzy scuba-diving on a beach.

have enough money with me to pay for the full treatment. I could afford either the plaster cast or the anaesthetic, but not both.

"So I had to have the finger set without a painkiller. I recorded the operation, too. Always record everything that goes wrong."

Suzy's catalogue of disaster seems endless — and a little comic. Last year, in the hope of curing her fear of flying, she sat in on a couple of aircraft disaster simulations. This was so she could see how crews are trained to deal with inflight problems.

Relaxing in her office at the LBC studios, Suzy explained: "The cabin fire was frightening because there was so much smoke. It wasn't a real fire but the

strength. I was seasick anyway, and pregnant, and then we hit this storm. It was a 'man the lifeboats' situation."

Suzy lives in Holland Park, West London, with her 37-year-old boyfriend Steve Crozier, who presents an early-morning commuter travel information show on LBC. She worked right through her pregnancy, including the day Benjamin was born, when she even had to stand in for Steve who had broken his leg.

"I was amazed Ben was even born because I had such a busy pregnancy," she told me. "I put on only 8lb and didn't even look like I was expecting a baby."

"I wasn't very popular with the doctors because I did nothing they told me to do, which was to take it easy for nine months. I carried on working and travelling

have been thinking I was getting a bit podgy. But some people at work never knew I was pregnant."

"When I came back some said to me, 'Where have you been?' When I told them I'd had a baby, they didn't believe me. In the end I had to bring Ben in to prove it!"

Suzy, an elegant and very composed blonde, went on: "I could take off only seven days after the birth because there are a lot of people out there who would love to have my job. If I had been away any longer, there would have been another person in my place like a shot."

"So I hobbled back after a week. Steve just about managed, even with a broken leg, and my mother came down to help. It was all incredibly difficult."

Planes terrify travel broadcaster Suzy Walton

smoke was quite genuine. When the cabin crew went to open the door of the plane so we could escape, it jammed.

"So that didn't really strengthen my faith in their abilities."

"Another time, I was present at a training course with Swissair to see how the pilots would deal with a failed engine."

"The simulator was supposed to miss the runway and then have one engine fail. These simulators are computer-controlled and they are supposed to be able to go wrong. But when I was there, one of the other engines went down, too. I kept expecting the computer to self-destruct. And it just made my flying phobia worse."

No wonder Suzy has earned a reputation in her business for being a Jonah. When pregnant with her 18-month-old son Benjamin, she went on a cruise ship to South America. "I thought, 'I'll be OK, there's a doctor on board,'" she said.

"But we got to the Bay of Biscay and hit a force 12 gale which is hurricane-

ing, and lived on nuts and smoked salmon for the whole pregnancy."

"But Ben was a big baby, he weighed 9lb, so I must have done something right."

"I was told by doctors that he was going to be quite small and I thought I would be able to pop him in hospital, have the baby and then go back to work the next day."

"But in the end I had to have a Caesarian section because he was too big to be born naturally. I was in a dreadful state afterwards because I had been working the day I had gone into labour and I was in labour for 27 hours."

Even then Suzy, who admits she finds it impossible to sit still for too long, was back at work after seven days.

"She said: 'I had kept it quiet that I was expecting a baby because I knew people at work would have said, 'You can't possibly have a baby in your job, it's impossible.' It had been made clear to me that I couldn't take off more than a week."

"So I didn't tell anyone about it until I was seven months gone, when they might

And now Suzy believes baby Benjamin has taken after her in the energy department. Suzy works out at a gym four times a week, also works for the BBC TV show *Transit* and needs only four hours sleep a night.

She said: "Ben's like me, he's raring to go. I take him every day to a nursery which has 13 other children, because he's not interested in staying at home all day with a nanny. He doesn't want to sit still and when I get home from work at about 8pm, he's still wide awake."

"When he was very tiny, the only way I could stop him crying was by running up and down with him. Rocking was far too gentle."

Suzy gave up acting after her West End stint because, as she put it: "After being in something as wonderful as *Children of a Lesser God*, I couldn't face a lifetime of playing silly little women in TV sitcoms."

"I never really wanted to be an actress at all. I was incredibly lucky to get the part of the deaf girl, Lydia, especially considering they really wanted a deaf



Travel broadcaster Suzy Walton

American to play her.

"The acting sort of happened and I knew I wasn't going to pursue it. Journalism was what I really wanted to do."

So how does Suzy manage to cram so much into her life? "Well, sometimes I think I'm going to explode. But I am very highly organised. I know where everything is and what time something is happening. I never make vague arrangements with people."

"There is no way I could fit all this in without being as organised as I am. I have to set up and take foreign trips, record the show, go to the gym and still make sure Ben has a clean vest."

"I seem to be blessed with a lot of energy. I can fit a lot into one day. I don't smoke or drink and I'm very careful with what I eat — I only eat fresh fruit and vegetables."

"I'm convinced that's why I'm able to carry on, and can always think clearly and quickly. The only time I'm a wreck is when I'm on a plane."

"People in my road see me pushing Ben along in his pushchair and ask, 'Do you have a job? You always seem to be pushing your baby up and down.'

"And people at work say, 'Do you have a home?' I do a lot of things because I just can't sit still."

"But despite all her tendencies towards superwoman status, Suzy isn't ashamed to talk about her one failing -- fear of flying."

She said: "When I'm on a plane, I'm often asked if it's my first flight. People can't take me seriously because my behaviour is so pathetic. If I told them I was a travel broadcaster, I doubt I'd be believed."

"Having said that, I still do it. It's like performers with stage fright. It's horribly frightening but you want more of it. The adrenalin rush is like a drug."

"Even if I was told an aircraft was having technical problems, I would still get on it. I'm addicted to my job. It frightens me but I can't imagine doing anything else."

"Although I do have an amount of bad luck. I have good luck, too. I feel I'm living the lives of three people. Most women either work hard, are good mothers or have a lot of fun in life. I seem to be able to combine all of these."

'Visit Malaysia year'

Muslim hospitality welcomes tourists

By Kenneth L. Whiting

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP): For a country that started taking tourism seriously only three years ago, Malaysia has been a quick study when it comes to learning how to attract foreign visitors.

A million tourists arrived in the first three months of 1990, more than double the same period a year ago. Another two million visitors dropped in from the neighbouring state of Singapore.

These may not be a big number compared to world famous vacation spots, but are impressive for a country that almost had to be coaxed into putting out the welcome mat.

"For a long time there was no politics. I will develop the industry," said Sabbaruddin Chik, chief of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism.

Malaysia remained aloof for years while its neighbour sought to woo free-spending foreigners.

Comfortably cushioned by an array of resources, Malaysia is developing a manufacturing sector to complement its exports of natural rubber, palm oil, cocoa, pepper, tropical hardwoods, tin, petroleum and natural gas.

Recognition that tourism is a major international industry finally prompted the government to create a separate Ministry of Tourism and Culture in 1987.

Chauvinists immediately demanded that the names be reversed to give culture precedence over tourism, which to them had overtones of selling the country to foreigners, something that might be tolerated but not particularly liked.

One speaker told a forum in January that the "Visit Malaysia Year" campaign is "making a mockery of Malaysian society" for which the people are not socially prepared.

Promoters try to reconcile their profit motive with the conservative habits of a country that has proclaimed Islam as its official religion.

While the culture has no tradition of tourism, it does put a premium on hospitality — both social customs and Islamic law enjoin Malaysians to treat guests better than themselves. There are limits,

Without consulting Sabbaruddin, the culture division of his ministry banned a performance by pop singer LaToya Jackson, elder sister of Michael Jackson. She posed semi-nude for Playboy magazine last year, as Kuala Lumpur newspapers duly reported, and an official said her presence was "against the values and norms of the local culture."

Launched with much hoopla in 1988, "Visit Malaysia Year" was designed to attract foreigners and get them to stay longer, foster the arts and culture and encourage locals to see Malaysia first before they venture abroad.

Wira the orangutan, representing an endangered species of ape found only in Borneo and Sumatra, was chosen as the mascot of the campaign. Independence Day on Aug. 31 is the anchor for 84 major events, 14 festivals and nine exhibitions.

Malaysia offers distinctive Malay, Chinese and Indian cultures along with the architectural heritage of its Portuguese, Dutch and British colonial eras.

There are unspoiled jungles, spectacular coral reefs, many unpopulated beaches and hill resorts perched above the tropical heart. Gamblers will find a casino at one resort.

Sightseers can watch rubber trees being tapped, monkeys helping harvest coconuts from tall palms and, in Borneo, spend the night in the longhouses of former headhunters.

The food is tasty, travel is expensive and mostly trouble-free, and a wide variety of hotels offer relatively good value. They range from Hiltons and Holiday Inns to the Club Med and more basic beachside bungalows.

The official goal of "Visit Malaysia Year" is to attract more than 4.2 million tourists and reap earnings of 2.5 billion ringgit (\$592 million) compared to 3.9 million people and two billion ringgit (\$641 million) last year.

Malaysia was fourth in the region in tourism, after Hong Kong with 5.4 million visitors in 1988, Thailand 4.9 million and Singapore 4.8 million.



Brenda believes the seals need a mother-baby relationship.

Sea orphans 'mum' gets the seal of approval

By Claire Lockhart

THE tragedy of the virus that made her headline news is now, hopefully, over for good... but seals are still a 20-hours-a-day, seven-days-a-week job for Brenda Giles.

The woman who was recently awarded the British Empire Medal for her wildlife work looks back on that time with great sadness for the animals that suffered and died, and also because she and husband Alan had warned of the dangers in advance.

At her back garden sanctuary, Brenda, 52, said: "We had noticed a difference in the seals about four years before the virus. In the early years of our work, perhaps 90 per cent of the babies became separated from their mothers and they needed to be hand reared. And 10 per cent would be sick or injured."

"But over the years that has now changed so that 90 per cent are not only separated from mother but also have sickness. And we feel this is mainly to do with pollution."

"But no-one would listen because we have no veterinary or scientific qualifications, so we are not classed as official and officially like to rub shoulders with officialdom!"

There has been no sign of the virus since the end of 1988 but Brenda can't forget that it cost the lives of about 30 seals brought to her at the time.

Yest she has saved more than 250 seals, stranded by storms in The Wash and returned them to the sea since transforming the garden of her home in Kings Lynn, Norfolk, into a seal rescue sanctuary 15 years ago. She runs it entirely on voluntary donations.

She said: "When the seals first arrive — some of them only hours old and still with cord hanging — they do need a mother-baby relationship."

Some have been lying on the marsh for days and are so weak and have lost the will to survive, so we need to give them something to cling on. We have to rekindle the will to survive. They need a mother."

"But just like human children as they become more independent, they grow away from me. So by the time they go back to sea, they're like teenagers and don't

want to be tied to mum's apron strings anymore."

When the time comes to release the creatures back into the sea, Brenda admits to mixed feelings. "Since the virus, there haven't been so many seals. But before the virus I had as many as 30 babies to hand rear. And I used to spend 20 hours a day pushing sprats down little throats while my husband did the cleaning. When you work 20 hours a day for months on end, you get tired and exhausted. You can get used to it and you can keep it up while you have to, but you do get very tired."

Breaking into a smile, Brenda goes on: "He was quite right! I think the cry was a good thing because it helped to get it all out of my system. I was nursing those little

babies. And they were dying."

"And no-one could give us any advice as to what to do to help them because we were the first in the country to have it. So we had to go through that experience and it was very sad."

Yet the job is not without its humorous moments, usually when a seal tries to escape. Brenda remembers: "We had a grey seal called Beautiful

Second leg ends in 0-0 draw

Juventus win Uefa Cup



Zoff holds aloft the Uefa Cup. (Reuter wirephoto)

AVELLINO, Italy, May 18. (Reuters): Juventus held fellow-Italians Fiorentina to a 0-0 draw in the second leg of the Uefa Cup soccer final on Wednesday to win 3-1 on aggregate despite being reduced to 10 men in a very physical match.

Juventus, who also won the Italian Cup this season after five years without a trophy, faced a fierce second half onslaught from their compatriots after Pasquale Bruno, who was booked in the first half, was sent off in the 58th minute.

Fiorentina, forced to play their home leg in the town of Avellino near Naples because of crowd trouble in the semifinal, could find no way to unlock the Juventus defence.

Brazilian international Dunga, Alberto di Chiara and Roberto Baggio — who may have played his last game for Fiorentina before his expected move to Juventus — all brought brilliant saves from Juventus and Italy reserve keeper Stefano Tacconi.

The nearest they came to scoring was four minutes from time when Czechoslovak international Lubos Kubik hit a post.

In the first half Fiorentina, who have not scored more than one goal in a Uefa tie this season, struggled to create chances but after Bruno's departure they dominated a match in which four other players were booked — three of them from Fiorentina.

Juventus, who won the Uefa

Cup in 1977 but whose last trophy was the European Cup in 1985, had several scoring chances in the first half with star striker Salvatore Schillaci shooting narrowly wide twice in the space of four minutes.

Both sides had chances in the opening stages of the match, with Dino Zoff two trophies in just his second year charge. However, his contract is to end after this match because Juventus made a deal to hire Bologna coach Luigi Maresca two years ago.

Juventus' victory gave Italy their second European trophy, following Sampdoria's triumph in the Cup Winners' Cup last week. AC Milan have an opportunity to make it a clean sweep when they contest the European cup next week.

There were bookings for Antonio Dell'oglio, Marco Nappi and Buso of Fiorentina and Sergei Aleinikov for Juventus. Nappi was also booked in the first leg.

Zoff said: "It was great, wonderful and the merit is theirs. They battled even though they were down to 10, one can't want better than that."

"It compensates a lot for my regret at leaving Juventus. Leaving at such a time, that's destiny — it's cruel."

Schillaci said: "We didn't expect this much at the beginning of the championship, absolutely not. We're very satisfied, we are happy, we've achieved the maximum."

to get the two goals needed to win their first European Trophy since the Cup Winners' Cup in 1961, went on the attack, forcing four corners in seven minutes.

But Juventus held on in determined fashion to earn manager Dino Zoff two trophies in just his second year charge. However, his contract is to end after this match because Juventus made a deal to hire Bologna coach Luigi Maresca two years ago.

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Christie aims to become world No. 1

LONDON, May 18. (Reuters): Briton Linford Christie, with three gold medals already to his credit this year, aims to end 1990 as the world's number one sprinter.

The Olympic silver medallist started the decade in style by winning the Commonwealth 100 metres title in a wind-assisted 9.93 seconds and anchoring the winning relay team to victory.

Then in March he won the European indoor 60 metres title before returning to his native Jamaica for 10 weeks.

Christie turned 30 last month and is aware that he does not have many seasons left at the top.

Accordingly, he will use the European section of the 1990 Grand Prix circuit, which starts in Sao Paulo, Brazil, this Sunday to stake his claim as the world's top sprinter.

"I'm racing a lot this season," Christie says. "Because if there are sprinters trying to avoid me, I'll go and find them."

"There are the Americans like Leroy Burrell, Mark Witherspoon and Carl Lewis. Then there's Ray Stewart of Jamaica and Chidi Imoh of Nigeria."

"It's a wide field. But I'm not going to let it get like the top distance runners who keep dodging each other. If the other sprinters try to do that, I'll go looking for them."

Christie hopes his European 100 metres title in Split, Yugoslavia, this year but his most competitive race is likely to come in the prestigious Zurich meeting on August 15.

Lewis, the Olympic champion, will have a low-key season although there is still a possibility he could take part in a special race against Ben Johnson when the Canadian's two-year suspension for doping ends in September.

The American is now the world record-holder after Johnson was stripped of the 9.83 second mark he set in the 1987 Rome world championships.

"I plan to compete in only seven to nine meets," Lewis said. One of those is expected to be the Goodwill Games in Seattle in July.



Indy 500 participant Michael Andretti signs autographs for fans. (Reuter wirephoto)

Time running out for Indy hopefuls

INDIANAPOLIS, May 18. (UPI): Wind gusts up to 41 mph (65 kph) kept practice speeds low for the Indianapolis 500 yesterday after high-speed laps were rained out the previous two days, and time is running out for 28 drivers looking to qualify for the May 27 race.

Clear skies were predicted for today's final full day of practice but rain is likely tomorrow with a chance of showers Sunday, according to the latest National Weather Service forecast.

"It's easy to find yourself running out of time at this place," said Dominic Dobson, seventh-fastest among qualified drivers. "People say you have a whole month here. But you really only have two or three days. Being qualified, we have the advantage of more time and more options with testing."

Emerson Fittipaldi owns the provisional pole after leading 15

laps in the rain-shortened session last Sunday. Thirteen others have a chance to qualify as first-session drivers, but that will not fill the 33-car field.

Indianapolis Motor Speedway officials reserve the right to fill the lineup in any method, which could include simply selecting the cars that would fill the vacancies. But in the past, other cars have been given one chance each at vacant spots with already qualified cars unable to be bumped.

Billy Vukovich III, who crashed his main car May 7, is trying to find competitive speed in an unqualified 1988 Lola-Buick.

"This is not a lot of fun," Vukovich said. "You've just got to hope for the best. Come Saturday or Sunday, we've got to run with the conditions whatever they are. We know we will have the chance. We just to wait until Monday, we'll be ready."

Bulls thrash 76ers

CHICAGO, May 18. (Reuters): The Chicago Bulls advanced to an Eastern Conference finals rematch against the defending National Basketball Association champion Detroit Pistons with a 117-93 over the Philadelphia 76ers on Wednesday.

Michael Jordan scored 37 points and Chicago's tough defensive play held Philadelphia to just 36 second-half points to give the Bulls a 4-1 victory in the best-of-seven series.

Scottie Pippen added 29 points for Chicago, while Ron Anderson was high scorer for the 76ers with 20. Philadelphia's all-star forward Charles Barkley was held to 17 points.

Philadelphia held a 63-62 halftime lead, but the Bulls broke open the game by outscoring the Sixers 27-18 in the third quarter.

Franklin hits first ton of New Zealand tour

TAUNTON, England, May 18. (Reuters): Trevor Franklin scored the first century of New Zealand's cricket tour of England yesterday, four years after his career was almost wrecked by a freak accident.

Opener Franklin missed a complete season because of a broken left leg. It was shattered when he was hit by a motorised baggage trolley at Gatwick airport as the New Zealanders prepared to fly home following their 1986 visit.

Doctors feared he would never play again. But the only sign of the injury was a slight limp while he frustrated Somerset's bowlers for four hours.

Franklin shared in a second-wicket partnership of 113 with nightwatchman Adam Parore, who made 43, and struck 13 boundaries before he fell leg before to spinner Ian Swallow for 103.

New Zealand, resuming at 22 for one, were happy to build steadily in reply to Somerset's 343 for six declared until Martin Crowe raised the tempo with a nine-boundary unbeaten 55.

Crowe, captain against his old county, added 79 with Andrew Jones and declared at tea at 278 for three, 65 behind. Jones rea-

ched 57 not out. South African runs-machine Jimmy Cook made an unbeaten 51 as Somerset totalled 113 for three by the close of the second day of the three-day game.

Scoreboard:
SOMERSET first innings 343 for six declared (C. Tavaré, 156, R. Harder, 104; M. Snedden four for 79).

NEW ZEALAND first innings (overnight 22 for one)

T. Franklin lbw b Swallow 103
J. Crowe c and b Jones 43
A. Parore c Jones b Swallow 43
A. Jones not out 51

M. Crowe not out 55
Extras (10-9 lb-8 w-1 nb-1) 20
Total (for three wickets) 220

Fall of wicket: 1-9-2-122-3-201

Did not bat: M. Greatbatch, K. Ruthford, S. Thomson, M. Presi M. Snedden, J. Milburn.

Bowling: Jones 9-2-20-1, Rose 16-4-2-0, Hayman 17-3-55-0, Hellier 14-2-52-0, Swallow 19-5-52-2, Roebuck 11-3-62. Harder 3-0-22-0.

0. SOMERSET second innings

J. Cook not out 51
P. Roebuck lbw b Snedden 5
J. Hardy & Parore b Milburn 5
A. Hayhurst run out 2

N. Burns not out 43
Extras (10-4 nb-2) 8

Total (for three wickets) 113

Fall of wickets: 1-23-34-3-48

Bowling (to date): Milburn 8-1-25-1, Snedden 8-2-22-1, Ruthford 4-1-25-0, Presi 8-3-19-0, Jones 4-0-18-0

Spurs outplay Trail Blazers

SAN ANTONIO, Texas, May 18. (AP): The San Antonio Spurs forced a seventh game in their intense Western Conference semifinals against Portland with a 112-97 victory last night as Willie Anderson, averaging only 15 points against the Trail Blazers, scored a playoff career-high 30 points.

The deciding game of the best-of-7 series will be tomorrow afternoon in Portland. The home team has won each of the six games in the series and the winner goes on to face the Phoenix Suns in the Conference finals.

Portland's Clyde Drexler was ejected from the game by referee Mike Mathis with 3:01 to play in the third period for hitting Anderson under the chin with an elbow.

Baseball results

NEW YORK, May 18. (Reuters): Results of Major League baseball games played yesterday.

American League

Milwaukee 6 California 3

Seattle 14 Toronto 6

Minnesota 4 N.Y. Yankees 5

Chicago 7 Baltimore 3

Detroit 7 Texas Rangers 5

National League

St. Louis 3 Cincinnati 0

Atlanta 6 Pittsburgh 5

Houston 5 Chicago Cubs 4

Ambrose apologises over 'beamers'

David Smith, who retired hurt with a broken thumb.

Results:

At Bristol: Glamorgan beat Gloucestershire by 145 runs. Glamorgan 291 in 100.4 overs and 170 (N. Cowley 61; C. Walsh 5 for 48). Gloucestershire 171 in 61.3 overs and 145 (K. Curran 44 = M. Frost 5 for 40). Glamorgan 23 points, Gloucestershire four.

At Lord's: Middlesex beat Kent by eight wickets. Kent 496 in 77.3 overs and 265 (N. Taylor 91, C. Cowdrey 44; M. Gatting four for two). Middlesex 272 in 104 overs and 193 for two (M. Gatting 87 not out). Middlesex 23 points, Kent four.

At Southampton: Hampshire beat Sussex by an innings and 157 runs. Sussex 152 in 59.2 overs and 291 (N. Lenzham 121). Hampshire 600 for eight declared in 139.3 overs. Hampshire 24 points, Sussex two.

At Leicester: Nottinghamshire beat Leicestershire by five wickets. Leicestershire 339 in 122.5 overs and 158 (L. Potter 50, F. Stephenson four for 33). Nottinghamshire 361 in 75 overs and 157 for five (D. Martindale 43). Nottinghamshire 22 points, Leicestershire seven.

Neil Lenzham
Keefe's favour.
• Four English county cricket championship matches produced results one day ahead of their scheduled four days yesterday.

Hampshire collected 24 points from their game at Southampton after thrashing injury-hit Sussex by an innings and 157 runs.

Neil Lenzham hit a career-best 121, including 14 fours, from 177 balls in 188 minutes as the visitors reached 266 in a vain attempt to reach 424 to make Hampshire bat again.

In the first innings they lost

THE BEST TOBACCO MONEY CAN BUY

Government Warning: Smoking is a major cause of cancer and diseases of the lungs, heart and arteries.

United capture 7th FA Cup

Martin's goal brings down Palace



Martin holds aloft the FA Cup. (Reuter wirephoto)

LONDON, May 18, (Reuters): Fullback Lee Martin gave Manchester United their seventh FA Cup victory at Wembley yesterday with the only goal of an often scrappy final replay against underdogs Crystal Palace.

It was Martin's first goal of the season and before the game he had been rated 50-1 against scoring.

The England under-21 international's 60th minute strike was a fine effort but no more than United deserved against their London opponents.

Ironically, local boy Martin cost nothing in a team assembled for £13 million (\$20 million).

The replay, following Saturday's 3-3 draw, was the first in the final since 1983 when United beat Brighton 4-0.

United manager Alex Ferguson, knowing the importance of victory after a disappointing League season that casts doubts on his future at Old Trafford, dropped Scotland international goalkeeper Jim Leighton for the replay.

Although not a total surprise, the move was amply rewarded.

Instead of Leighton, who bore the brunt of the blame for some of Palace's goals on Saturday, Ferguson opted for Les Sealey, on loan from Luton.

The experienced 32-year-old was almost unable to play because his loan period expired last weekend. But United won a special extension and Sealey obliged with an excellent performance.

United's win made former Aberdeen boss Ferguson the first British manager since World War II to win both the Scottish and English FA Cups.

Palace manager Steve Coppell, who himself had a glorious Cup career with United, was a spectator when Manchester beat Brighton in 1983.

Coppell was lucky that yesterday's scoreline was not heavier on Palace.

After a first half cluttered with fouls, mostly Palace-inspired, United came alive in the second 45 minutes.

Martin stormed into the area and blasted the winner into the top of the net past despairing goalkeeper Nigel Martyn.

Four minutes later, Coppell brought on substitute Ian Wright, the heroic scorer of two goals on Saturday.

But the closest Palace could get was in the 70th minute when Andy Gray stabbed at a loose ball in a goalmouth scramble only to see Sealey bundle it clear at full stretch.

The first half had shown neither team in their best light, with the rough play a marked departure from Saturday's clean game and rarely of the hoped-for standard of a Cup final.

Palace had two players booked within a first half hour marked by 16 free kicks and fouls, Mark Bright being shown the yellow card for a check on Sealey after six minutes and Alan Pardew following him in the 21st

minute for felling United defender Paul Ince.

United's Welsh international Mark Hughes, who saved his team with two goals on Saturday, was also booked early in the second half.

Ince, a key member of the United team, gave the fans a nasty scare just before halftime when he went down clutching his left calf but after lengthy treatment he rose unsteadily to his feet.

United's England captain Bryan Robson also received attention in the second half after falling heavily on his shoulder but recovered to finish the match.

Palace had their first shot on goal in the 24th minute from Nigerian born striker John Salako. His effort was calmly deflected by Sealey.

Two minutes later a handball on the edge of the United area by defender Steve Bruce gave Palace another good scoring chance from the free kick but Sealey again saved the day.

Crystal Palace: Nigel Martyn; John Pemberton, Richard Shaw, Andy Gray, Gary O'Reilly, Andy Thorn, Phil Barber (Ian Wright 64th minute), Geoff Thomas, Mark Bright, John Salako (David Madden 80) Alan Pardew.

Manchester United: Les Sealey, Paul Ince, Lee Martin, Steve Bruce, Michael Phelan, Gary Pallister, Bryan Robson, Neil Webb, Brian McClair, Mark Hughes, Danny Wallace.



Robson (right) leaps to head the ball against Mark Bright. (Reuter wirephoto)



United's Danny Wallace (right) dribbles past Palace's John Pemberton. (Reuter wirephoto)

Italy to get names of hooligans

LONDON, May 18, (Reuters): Britain is sending the names of a stout 100 convicted soccer hooligans to Italy hoping authorities there will ban them from attending the World Cup, a government minister said yesterday.

"This move is designed to strengthen the arrangements already in place for World Cup security, including effective police liaison," Home Secretary David Waddington said in a statement.

Waddington said the names, gleaned from police files, were being sent to Italy with his recommendation they be banned from entering the country.

A home office spokesman said it was impossible to tell how many "ring-leaders" were among approximately 100 hooligans on the list.

Under a new British law, Britons convicted of soccer hooliganism at home or abroad can be banned for up to two years from travelling to matches overseas. The law cannot be used against those convicted before it went into effect last month.

Searched

Soccer fans will be searched, fireworks and alcohol banned and only banners strictly connected to football will be allowed into Italy's World Cup stadiums next month, organisers said on Wednesday.

The Italian World Cup organising committee said it had agreed a series of measures with security officials aimed at preventing violence inside stadiums during the month-long competition.

A publicity campaign to inform foreign soccer supporters about the measures is being planned, the committee said.

Stadiums in the 12 cities hosting the tournament will be patrolled by police from 24 hours before the start of matches.

US team gets Bush message

WASHINGTON, May 18, (AP): US President George Bush sent a good luck message to the US World Cup soccer team.

Bush was not able to attend a reception yesterday in the team's honour in New York.

I am delighted to join the many proud Americans gathered in New York in extending best wishes to the coaches and members of the United States national soccer team as you depart for Italy to compete in the World Cup," Bush said in a telegram.

"In preparation for this prestigious tournament, you demonstrated not only your individual athletic skills but also a winning team spirit. Our country is honoured to have a team of your caliber competing against the world's best players."

"I welcome the opportunity for the United States to host the 1994 games and, as the first US team to compete in this tournament in 40 years, you are helping in the 1990 games to kick off America's increasing visibility in one of the world's most popular sports."

"You already have won a place of honour in the hearts of America's sports fans. Best of luck this summer — we're behind you all the way."

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Australians ban flags, emblems from grounds

DUBLIN, May 18, (Reuters): Middlesbrough and Ireland striker Bernie Slaven have been handed a ticket to the World Cup finals with only two and a half hours international experience.

Slaven, who made his international debut two months ago and has since only come on as a substitute, was one of 22 players in the Republic of Ireland squad named by manager Jack Charlton yesterday.

A late arrival on the soccer scene, Slaven, 29, used to be a gardener in his native Scotland. He has been Middlesbrough's top scorer for the last four years, with an impressive 32 goals this season. Even so the club was nearly relegated to Division Three.

Charlton's announcement also brought good news for Millwall midfielder Gary Maddock, who has been battling against injury.

"Maddock, 28, has played for Ireland only

once in the past five years — in last month's triumph over the Soviet Union — but it appears he has overcome the knee problem that threatened to end his playing days.

Although there were no big surprises in the squad, there was relief for long-serving Frank Stapleton, who at one time looked in danger of Jack Charlton yesterday.

The 33-year-old Blackburn striker, who captained Ireland in the 1988 European champion finals, will have the chance to bring his international career to a more satisfactory end.

Charlton will not officially be giving the names to Fifa until the May 29 deadline, in case of injuries.

He still wants to check on the fitness of Liverpool's Ronnie Whelan, whose broken

right foot will stay in plaster until Tuesday.

■ Austria announced their 22-man squad for the World Soccer Cup finals in Italy yesterday, with the absence of goalkeeper Franz Wohlfahrt the only surprise.

Team manager Josef Hickersberger picked Otto Konrad to join Michael Konsel and Klaus Linderberger in goal instead of Wohlfahrt, whose team Admira Wacker were beaten 3-1 by Sturm Graz in their final match of the season on Tuesday.

The squad includes top marksmen this season, Toni Polster, of Spanish club FC Sevilla, and Gerhard Rodax, Austria's top scorer with 35 goals, lead the attack.

The only question mark is over experienced forward Christian Keglevic, who is recovering from a torn muscle but is expected to be fit in time.

Heysel trial

BRUSSELS, Belgium, May 18, (AP): A prosecutor yesterday called for harsher sentences for British soccer fans convicted for the 1985 Heysel stadium riot that killed 39 people.

During the appeal trial, prosecutor Oscar Vandemeulebroeck asked for a "substantial" increase of the sentences imposed on 10 of 14 people in the first trial in April last year.

■ They are countries that should be in the finals."

Italy has been listed as the odd-on favourite to win the coveted trophy at 5-2, Brazil and the Netherlands are listed at 9-2, West Germany 6-1 and Argentina 8-1.

Asked his opinion of the Argentine offense, Menem jokingly accused newsmen of attempting to provoke dispute between himself and Carlos Bilardo, coach of the national team, which won the 1986 World Cup in Mexico.

Argentina will reach final: Menem

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina, May 18, (AP): President Carlos Menem, a passionate soccer fan, yesterday predicted that defending champion Argentina "will be among the finalists" in the World Cup that starts June 3 in Italy.

"Of course, I think that Italy, being the home team, is another of the candidates," Menem said during a meeting with foreign journalists.

"Also, you have to watch Yugoslavia, Germany,

England, Brazil and Holland," he added. "All of

English playoff results

LONDON, May 18, (Reuters): Results of English League promotion playoff semi-finals, second leg soccer matches on Wednesday:

Division Two: Newcastle 0; Sunderland 2; (Sunderland won 3-0 on aggregate); Swindon 2; Blackburn 1; (Swindon won 4-3 on aggregate).

Division Three: Notts County 2; Bolton 0; (Notts County won 3-1 on aggregate); Tranmere 2; Bury 0; (Tranmere won 2-0).

Two Sunderland v Swindon

Scotland, Soviet Union beaten

LONDON, May 18, (Reuters): World Cup soccer finalists Scotland and the Soviet Union received a severe jolt on Wednesday when they were beaten by unfancied opposition less than a month ahead of the final tournament in Italy.

Egypt gave themselves an enormous morale boost before they make their first appearance in the world Cup finals in over 50 years by defeating the Scots 3-1 in Aberdeen.

The Soviet Union, runners-up in the 1988 European championship, were beaten 3-2 by Israel in Tel Aviv where the winning goal was struck by 19-year-old Tal Banim midway through the second half.

Ireland, who beat the Soviet Union 1-0 in Dublin three weeks ago, narrowly escaped defeat in their capital against Finland, team — like Israel — which failed to reach the World Cup finals.

Kevie Sheldy snatched a 1-1 draw for Ireland five minutes from the final whistle — and preserved an unbeaten four-year home record — after substitute Vesa Taurainen had given Finland a 16th-minute lead.

Egypt warmed up style for their Group F first round encounters in Italy with the Netherlands, Ireland and England, who savoured a 1-0 victory over Denmark at Wembley on Tuesday to take their unbeaten run to 17 matches.

Gamal Abdel-Hamid and Hossam Hassan put them 2-0 in front inside 28 minutes and although Ally McCoist pulled one back for the Scots in the 73rd minute, small Yusuf sealed Egypt victory with the final goal 10 minutes later.

Israel, becoming a Soviet international soccer team to their soil for the first time since 1956, twice took the lead in the first half.

Goals by Uri Malmil and Nir Levin were cancelled out by first half

strikes from Dynamo Kiev midfielders Gennadi Litovenko and Alexei Mikailchenko.

Baum, however, scored the decisive goal in the 67th minute to mollify Israeli fans who had held up the start of the match for 12 minutes by throwing cans and fruit on the pitch in protest against the non-appearance of three foreign-based players, including Ronnie Rosenthal of English champions Liverpool.

Soviet coach Valery Lobanovsky attributed defeat to serious defensive mistakes and promised a completely different team in the World Cup finals, while Scotland did nothing to enhance their hopes against Brazil, Sweden and Costa Rica in Group C.

In Dublin, the Ireland-Finland match was also a testimonial for 34-year-old Liam Brady, who made his farewell after 72 appearances in a 16-year international career with Ireland.

Brady came off after 26 minutes but went close to creating a goal before his exit. David O'Leary met Brady's corner with a header but Finnish goalkeeper Olli Huuhtinen saved brilliantly.

Egypt's Hassan (left) watches the ball after being tackled by Scotland's Richard Gough. (Reuter wirephoto)

Gunn's fist as he raced in to score with a glancing header.

But nine minutes later Hassan returned to enjoy the rest of a match in which a lively and talented Egyptian side made it clear they should not be underestimated by their World Cup rivals, while Scotland did nothing to enhance their hopes against Brazil, Sweden and Costa Rica in Group C.

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Unbridled tipped to beat Summer Squall in Preakness Stakes

BALTIMORE, Maryland, May 18. (Reuter): Unbridled's surprise Kentucky Derby victory has made him favourite for tomorrow's Preakness Stakes, second leg of the triple crown, but doubts remain over the colt's true ability.

Unbridled was made 7-5 favourite

for the 115th Preakness, while Summer Squall, who had been favoured to win the Kentucky Derby, was a 2-1 bet to win the 9-1/2 furlong (two-km) test for three-year-olds at Pimlico race course.

Unbridled won the May 5 derby

when jockey Craig Perret brilliantly threaded him through the 15-horse field to a 3-1/2 length victory over Summer Squall, who ran out of stamina down the Churchill Downs stretch.

Since he took the 116th derby as a

10-1 shot two weeks ago, commentators have praised Unbridled's "perfect" run.

But they point to Mister Frisky's disappointing eighth-place finish — 19-1/4 lengths off the pace — as an aberration and say tomorrow's

smaller field will help the colt who had posted 16 wins in as many starts prior to the derby.

Mister Frisky, who won most of his races in Puerto Rico, is a grandson of Damascus, 1967 winner of the Preakness and Belmont Stakes. The chestnut colt is trained by Cuban native Laz Barrera, who trained Affirmed, the last horse to win the triple crown in 1978.

Unbridled's trainer, Carl Nafzger, insists his horse has "all the attributes to be a triple crown winner."

"If the seams open and we get the

same race we got in the derby, they had better not be looking around because he might be by them," he warned.

Cot Campbell, managing partner of the 28-member syndicate that owns Summer Squall, was satisfied with his horse's seventh post position.

LOCAL FOOTBALL

Sahel stun Al Kuwait to reach Cup final

KUWAIT Soccer League's Second Division Club Al Sahel Club sprung the biggest surprise of the Amir's Cup competition by ousting favourites Al Kuwait in a penalty shootout on Wednesday. Both teams ended the two-leg matches by drawing 1-1. An extra time failed to separate the two teams.

In the penalty shootout, Al Sahel came out victorious 4-3. Al Sahel sailed through the first round by overcoming another First Division team Al Nasr in both the matches. The Amir's Cup competition is being played a two-leg system for the first time in its 29-year history.

Three other teams qualified for the semifinal stage which would start today. Al Arabi, last season's runner-up, qualified after overcoming a tough challenge from Second Division Khetan.

Embarassed

Al Arabi managed to score one goal only in the first minute of the time added for stoppages and was embarrassed when it drew the second match 1-1. They will meet Al Sahel in today's first semifinal match.

If they display the same game as they did against Khetan, Al Arabi may simply find themselves out of the Amir's Cup. Al Sahel has proven they are not the underdogs and are ready to spring yet another surprise. The second-leg match will be played on Tuesday.

The other semifinal is promising to be certainly more exciting with two top First Division teams meeting. Kazma, who passed through two difficult challenges by ousting Jahra, the League champions, and Salmya, will play Qadsya. Kazma displayed good form in defeating Jahra 1-0 and 2-1 in their matches and in beating Salmya 2-1 and drawing the second match 1-1.

Holders Qadsya, however, have regained the form that eluded them during the third round of the League, when they lost 5 of their 7 matches. In their second round match, Qadsya thrashed Second Division Al Shahab 3-1 and 6-0. The second match was played late Thursday.

Qadsya finished their first half 1-0 and scored five goals in the second after missing at least a similar number of opportunities. Their main striker Muayad Al Haddad was in top form and scored a hat-trick.

If they maintain this form against Kazma on Sunday and Wednesday, Qadsya may not find it difficult to sail through to the final and even win the Cup for the second consecutive time.

In another development, Qadsya's Brazilian coach, Philip Louis yesterday renewed his contract with Qadsya for another season. It was reported that he and the club overcame some financial obstacles before renewing the contract.

Graf outplays Meskhi

Wilander splits with coach

WEST BERLIN, May 18. (Agencies): World number one Steffi Graf of West Germany reached the semifinals of the \$500,000 West Berlin Women's Tennis Tournament today after a 6-4-6-1 victory over Leila Meskhi of Soviet Union.

Graf, the top seed, fought off a

tough challenge from the 13th seed. Soviet player in the first set. The second set was, however, smooth sailing for the West German, who played her quarterfinal match on Wednesday.

Graf had to shake off the effects of an off day and only seemed to find her rhythm at the end of the

first set. Graf had no problems in the second set as her opponent seemed to tire out after putting in every strength she had in the first set.

Joining Graf in the semifinals were 8th seeded Natalia Zvereva of the Soviet Union and Sandra Cecchini of Italy.

Zvereva had to fight back after losing the first set to Australia's Judith Wiesner to win 6-7-6-6-4 while Cecchini upset 10th seeded Nathalie Tauziat of France 7-6-6-3.

■ Argentina's Gabriela Sabatini crashed out of the West Berlin tournament yesterday in a third-round match delayed by persistent rain.

Sabatini, seeded number three in the competition, lost 4-6-3-4-6 to Cecchini.

American fourth seed Mary Joe Fernandez also fell, forced to retire hurt after just one game of her third-round clash with Weissen.

Fernandez injured here back in her last serve of the first game and was unable to sit down during the break, giving Wiesner an easy — but welcome — passage into the last eight.

■ Former world number one Mats Wilander, preparing a



Graf hits a forehand return. (Reuter wirephoto)

Sanchez reaches semifinals

ROME, May 18. (AP): Spain's Emilio Sanchez today became the first player to reach the semifinals at the Italian Open, beating Guillermo Perez-Roldan 7-6 (7-5), 6-2.

Sanchez, who has already won two titles this year, has won 13 of his 17 clay court matches this year.

The fourth-seeded Sanchez controlled the one hour and 46 minute match against the 12th-seeded Argentine, hitting deep, consistent groundstrokes and hustling on the baseline.

The Spaniard, who lost to Ivan Lendl in the finals of the 1986 Italian Open, also won important points on volleys and overheads.

"Perez-Roldan is always dangerous, especially with his forehand," said Sanchez. "I tried to keep him from getting into a groove by attacking his backhand and rushing net as much as I could."

The absence of the world's top four players, and

the slow red clay of the Foro Italico, has altered players' approach.

"There's certainly more pressure on us," said Sanchez, No. 8 in the world. "Because now we feel obliged to do well. But there is also more desire. Because each of us believes that he can win. On clay, we are all equal."

Sanchez believes that the absence of Ivan Lendl, Stefan Edberg, Boris Becker and Andre Agassi have not substantially altered the Rome tournament.

"The top four players didn't desert this tournament because it's not important," he said. "They deserted it because it's hard to play here. And because it's hard to play six matches in seven days, especially so close to the French Open. Besides, if you look back over the past few months, you'll see that those same top players have lost consistently on clay."

England recall Gower

LONDON, May 18. (Reuter): David Gower has been recalled to the England cricket team eight months after he was dropped as captain and then left out of the winter tour to the West Indies.

Selectors named the 33-year-old batsman today in a 13-man squad for next week's two one-day internationals against New Zealand at Headingly on Wednesday and the Oval on Friday.

Gower, who moved to Hampshire this season after 15 seasons with Leicestershire, scored a fine century against Sussex this week watched by England manager Micky Stewart.

With 3,030 runs from 105 matches, he is England's third highest run scorer in one-day internationals behind Allan Lamb on 3,224 and captain Graham Gooch with 3,086.

Essex all-rounder Derek Pringle also wins back a one-day place and Neil Fairbrother has been put on standby for opener Wayne Larkins, who has to prove his fitness on Monday after fracturing a finger last week.

Squad: Graham Gooch (captain), Phillip De Freitas, Angus Fraser, David Gower, Eddie Hemmings, Allan Lamb, Wayne Larkins, Chris Lewis, Derek Pringle, Jack Russell, Gladstone Small, Robin Smith, Alec Stewart.

Becker to play in world tournament

DUESSELDORF, West Germany, May 18. (Reuter): Wimbledon champion Boris Becker looks to the cosy club atmosphere of next week's World Team Cup for inspiration on clay before heading for the glamour of the French Open tennis championships.

The eight-team event at Dusseldorf's compact Rochusclub provides a stark contrast to the intensity and show of the Paris Grand Slam event which starts on May 28.

With no ATP Tour points at stake, the players can relax and enjoy the small-time ambience of the West German club.

"Last year there were great games, a unique atmosphere, and superb weather," said Becker, the world number three.

Myers and Cristina Castro of Spain.

British Beverley Nicholson showed her superiority in the mile. She finished in four minutes 45.45 seconds, a good seven seconds faster than second placed Alejandra Ramos of Spain.

■ Olympic champions Peter Rono of Kenya and Brahim Boutayeb of Morocco head an impressive entry for the first Grand Prix athletics meeting of the season at Sao Paulo's Ibirapuera Stadium on Sunday.

Organisers said Cuba's men's high jump world record holder Javier Sotomayor and top women's middle distance runner Ana Quirot were also expected.

Boutayeb, who took the 10,000 metres gold medal in the Seoul Olympics, said he was going to be racing himself more to the 5,000 metres this season.

His competitors in Sao Paulo include the two Kenyans Peter Koech, world record holder for the 3,000 metres steeplechase, and Charles Cheruiyot.

Rono is firm favourite in the 1,500 metres.

Joaquin Cruz, 1984 Olympic champion but silver medallist in Seoul, has returned to his native Brazil from San Diego to compete in the 800 metres.

The United States is providing a tough field in the 400 metres with Danny Harris and Kevin Young up against Olympic silver medallist Amadou Dia Ba of Senegal.

Jamaica's Merlene Ottey won the women's 100 metres in apparently effortless style, beating Sandra

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Elliott runs year's fastest 800 metres



Peter Elliott

SANTANDER, Spain, May 18. (Reuter): Olympic champions Paul Ereng and Julius Kariuki of Kenya were surprise losers in the 100-metre and 3,000-metre events at the Santander outdoor athletics meeting last night.

But Briton Peter Elliott's excellent performance in the 800 metres helped make up for the Kenyans' discouraging results and for the last minute pull-out of Moroccan star Said Aouia.

Elliott dominated from the start and romped home in one minute 45.20 seconds, the fastest time this year on the distance.

Kariuki, Olympic 3,000 metres steeplechase gold medallist, was widely expected to win the 3,000 metres after a leg injury forced Aouia to stay away.

He took an early lead but struggled in third after losing ground to Mark Rowland of Britain and Spain's Abel Anton in the last 50 metres.

Ereng, the Olympic 800 metres gold medallist, also finished an inch-faster third in the 1,000 metres behind fellow-Kenyan Jackson Lokol and Briton John Gladwin.

Nigeria's Yusuff Ali, expected to win the long jump, had to be content with second place in 7.91 metres behind Spaniard Angel Hernandez's 7.94 metres.

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Douglas set to face King in courtroom

COLUMBUS, Ohio, May 18. (AP): Having already won the heavyweight championship in the ring, James "Buster" Douglas will be looking for another lucrative victory next week when he takes on promoter Don King in a Las Vegas courtroom.

Douglas and his manager, John Johnson, filed suit in Nevada Feb. 21, seeking to void a contract the fighter signed with King 18 months ago.

Douglas' suit contends that the contract is invalid because King did not act in Douglas' best interests when the promoter protested Douglas' victory over Mike Tyson Feb. 10, in Tokyo.

Tyson and King filed a protest on the basis of a "long count" that saved Douglas at the bell two rounds before he knocked out Tyson in the 10th. They later withdrew the protest.



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